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WEAT

## Arafat's pact with the devil

News in Focus, Page 7



Mr. Bean hits America



The mysterious death of **Charles Jordan** 

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## Barak fires half of Labor's staff

Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak yesterday fired more than half the staff at party headquar-ters, citing a NIS 80 million debt. The Histadrut retaliated by declaring a strike of party

employees.

Barak left party headquarters in Tel Aviv before having organizational department head Shaul Pasternak deliver dismissal notes to 36 of 70 staff members. Barak had sequestered himself for hours in his bureau with a team

of lawyers to decide who should

Barak said the cuts were mandatory given the party's debt. He said too many assets are being spent on payroll, leaving no money for political action.

The dismissals put Labor on a collision course with the Histadrut, which condemned the move, declared it illegal, and came out in support of the stunned employees, who barricaded themselves in the building.

See BARAK, Page 18

## Histadrut seeks injunction against dismissals

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

The Histadrut last night petitioned Tel Aviv Labor Court for an immediate injunction against the Labor Party to prevent the firings, and the workers declared an immediate strike at the Histadrut's instruc-

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The dismissal notices prepared by party leader Ehud Barak are unilateral and impertinent, and in complete contradiction to Labor's promise to negotiate with the workers representatives before layoffs, clerks'

chairman Morozovsky said.

The Histadrut also set up a situation room, which began sup-plying food, blankets and logistical help to Labor Party workers, who occupied party head-quarters and aren't letting anyone in or out. Histadrut sources expressed

fury at Barak's conduct, noting that the last thing the leader of the workers' party needs is to have his image linked to arbitrary firings.

See DISMISSALS, Page 2



A Labor Party worker dismissed by party leader Ehud Barak vents her anger yesterday. The graffiti beside her reads: 'Ehud fled again.'

## PM: We won't be conned by Arafat

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Binyamin Minister Netanyahu told the weekly cabinet meeting yesterday the government will not be "comed" by the Palestinian Authority into accepting its current level of action against terrorists as an appropriate response to July's Mahaneh Yehuda bombing.

His remarks coincided with a revailing sense of dismay and disdain in official quarters at PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's convening of "national unity" conclaves with Hamas and Islamic Jihad leaders in Gaza and Ramallah.

"The steps which the PA has taken in the security sphere up to now are only initial steps which have not fulfilled our expectations," he said. "No one can expect the continuation of the peace process, while turning a blind eye to the

fact the PA is not fighting terrorism. For progress to be possible, and for the benefit of the PA itself, it must change the course it has taken till now."

US chides Arafat, Page 2

He contended Israel proved its goodwill this week by transferring to the PA part of the funds garnered from customs and taxes. PA officials were quoted by

Reuters as saying they received NIS 40 million that had been withheld. Arafat charged that the sanctions imposed since the bombings are meant to "starve and humiliate" the Palestinian people.

See PM, Page 18

## Histadrut, unions prepare for general strike

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Hundreds of union leaders and local labor council members attended an emergency meeting at Histadrut headquarters in Tel Aviv yesterday to complete preparations for a general strike at the beginning of September.

The workers are protesting the government's economic reforms, including privatization, which will involve mass firings, the violation of signed pension and wage agreements, the taxing of study funds, and the continuing erosion of wages due to failure to update the cost of living increments.

At the stormy meeting, Histadrut Chairman Amir

Peretz called on the government to "take the workers' demands seriously and start talking immediately, because this time we will launch an all-out war." But he also expressed the hope the Treasury talks

which are to start Sunday, will stave off the strike. "We don't want to strike. The plants are ours; they are our source of livelihood and we want to work. 1 hope we will be permitted to work in dignity, make a decent living, and grow old in dignity. Nobody has the right to deprive us of that," said Haim Katz, head of the Israel Aircraft Industries union.

See STRIKE, Page 18

### WORLDVIEW

## Reconciliation effort proves tricky for South Africa

By GILBERT A. LEWTHWAITE

PRETORIA, South Africa (Baltimore Sun) - The sheer coldblooded calculation with which two killers gunned down communist leader Chris Hani in 1993, in an attempt to prevent the transfer of power to South Africa's black majority, may now help the murderers walk free.

It is an unintentional irony for

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the country's Truth and denied it to nearly 2,500 others. Reconciliation Commission, as it considers forgiving the most dreadful atrocities of the apartheid era: If the murder was indeed "political," the white, right-wing extremists who are the confessed killers can be granted amnesty.

To decide the amnesty issue, the commission must judge whether three tests have been mer that the crime was indeed political, that it was in some sense in line with the political aims, and that the figures seeking amnesty have fully disclosed their actions. On that basis the commission has already granted amnesty to 47 people - and

But possibility of Hani's murderers walking free in exchange for simply telling the details their crime is a troubling one in a country with a soaring crime rate and struggling to build confidence in

its justice system.
The problem is, it is undermining respect for the principle of justice," said Steven Friedman, director of the Center for Police Studies, and who has campaigned to require an expression of remorse and some form of compensation for families of victims.

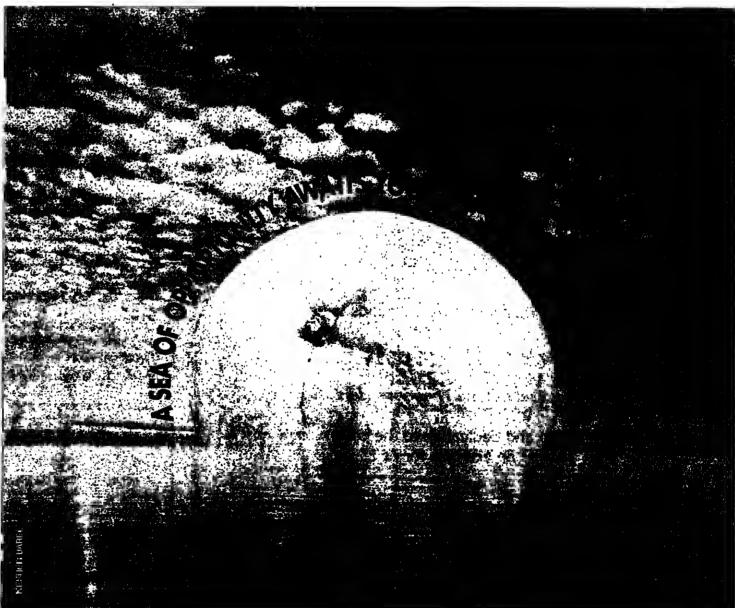
See TRUTH, Page 6

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## IDF soldier hurt in Lebanon

#### Jerusajem Post Staff and news agencies

Artillery exchanges took place in southern Lebanon last night between the IDF and SLA and Hizbullah, after an IDF soldier was lightly wounded and a Lebanese man was killed in a

Hizbullah roadside bomb attack. The IDF Spokesman said the army was investigating wbether the IDF soldier was wounded by Hizbullah fire, or mistakenly fired upon by a fellow soldier while on patrol along the border

fence with Lebanon last night. The soldier, who was wounded in the shoulder, was taken by ambulance to the hospital in

According to initial reports, the shooting occurred in the early evening, when a soldier on patrol detected suspicious movement and opened fire, and then realized he bad struck a fellow soldier oo another patrol.

But Hizbullah later issued a statement saying it had wounded an Israeli soldier in an attack. Earlier in the day, a roadside bomb appareotly planted by Hizbullah killed a truck driver in

southern Lebanon yesterday. Hizbullah said, it attacked an Israeli patrol in south Lebanon sbortly after SLA sources said shells bit one of its outposts.

messages in an attempt to calm the situation.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said Israel does not want to widen its actions in Lebanon.

"I doo't want to take any action io Lebanoo that would destroy understandings reached and amount to an adventure. I favor only actions that have the defined goal of striking at Hizbullah and giving security to northern settlements," he told reporters in the north.

Hours after the blast in Jezzine, IDF artillery fired shells at suspected Hizbullah positions in mountains in the south of the Bekaa Valley, SLA sources said.

The IDF Spokesman denied the report. Hizbollah said its men fired

machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades at IDF forces in the western sector of the security The blast occurred a day after the IAF launched its biggest

attack on Lebanon in 16 months and raised the death toll of this week's attacks to at least 10 Lebanese civilians. A similar incident on Monday

sparked three days of violence, including shelling of the port city of Sidon by SLA militiameo that killed six people and

Israeli officials again issues Hizbullah rocket barrages on northern Israel.

There were fears of more reprisals and counterattacks after yesterday's roadside bomb that killed the truck driver on a road near Jezzine - a Christian monntain town, 40 kilometers south-east of Beirut.

Since the eruption of violence on Monday, bundreds of residents in Hizbullah-controlled territory have headed north to safer areas.

This month's violence between Israel and Hizbullah has claimed a total of 25 lives in Lebanon. mostly civilians, and injored three in Israel.

Yesterday's bombing came a day after IAF jets raided deep inside Lebanon, targeting a Hizbullah base in eastern Lebanon, an electricity pylon in the center and a Lebanese army artillery battery in the south. Four Lebanese were injured.

The violence bas threatened to undermine a US-brokered agree-ment reached in April 1996 to spare civilians.

The monitoring committee made up of representatives from the United States, France, Lebanon, Israel and Syria. continued meeting yesterday to bear complaints from Israel and Lebanon about this week's fight-



Palestinian police hold back demonstrating medical workers as they try to march on the Erez checkpoint yesterday.

## PA pursues dialogue with Hamas

#### By JON HAMANUEL

The Palestinian Authority pursued its dia-ogue yesterday with Hamas in Ramallah, and chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat stressed that the talks were aimed at forging greater Palestinian unity.

"I can't understand what [Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu is wortied about," Erekat said. "We are a society which believes in democracy and pluralism. We will not allow Hamas to form an alternative society."

While Israel criticized Arafat for oot arresting Hamas militants, they noted that Abdol-Aziz Rantisi, embraced by Arafat at the opening conference in Gaza on Wednesday, was released from an Israeli jail this year.

Erekat alleged that "Netanyahu has brought relations between the Israeli and Palestinian people to their worst point since the beginning of the peace process."

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, chief adviser to PA head Yasser Arafat, said the conference wasn't being held to appease Hamas but to assert PLO domination. He stressed that the PLO was leading the meeting and that "our strategic choice is

He explained Arafat's "all options are open" remark at the opening session Wednesday as meaning that "if Israel is not interested in peace it will push Palestinians to reconsider things." Still, Abu Rudeineh asserted it would be more difficult for the PLO to renege on the 1993 peace deal than for Israel.

Regarding the boycott of Israeli goods declared this week, a measure which Hamas has long supported, Abu Rudeineh said it was in retaliation for the three-week-old closure and that the boycott would end when the closure does.

"If they are not letting workers in we have a right to stop goods," he said. Some Israeli trucks were turned back at the

Karni checkpoint in Gaza on Monday. Palestinian inspectors have warned merchants to buy no more Israeli goods after they sell their present stock. Announcements have appeared in the press urging consumers to buy local goods. Israel could lose millions of dollars a day in

exports to the West Bank and Gaza, but would also have the ability to retaliate by preventing the Palestinians from exporting their produce or importing goods from elsewhere. Several delegates from Gaza who tried to

travel to Ramallah were turned back at the Erez checkpoint, including Kamal Sharafi, head of the legislative council's comminee investigating PA corruption.

lmad Falouji, a former Hamas militant who is now communications minister, was allowed through,

In Gaza, doctors and nurses, joined by Islamic activists, marched towards Erez checkpoint from Shifa Hospital in Gaza City to protest deteriorating health conditions, including vaccine shortages for children.

Israeli security sources denied that any medicines were being kept from reaching Gaza.

## Israel, US examine Arrow failure

#### By STEVE RODAN

Israeli and US teams worked furiously throughout yesterday to examine data on Wednesday's failed Arrow 2 missile test in an attempt to limit any delay in the anti-missile defense program and Israeli plans to deploy the system next year.

Israeli officials said they are attempting to combine the tasks of the failed test with those of the forthcoming test planned for early 1998 to save time and meet their deadline for Arrow deployment by the end of 1998. The next test is meant to be the last of a series of six tests before the Arrow is to be deployed here.

Israel has tried to speed up development of the Arrow in an attempt to advance its deployment, prompted by the intense development and production of ballistic missiles in Syria and Iran. Israel and the US have also cooperated on other anti-missile defense programs to complement the Arrow system.

Defense sources said the malfunction in the Arrow 2 was not the result of a system-wide failure. Instead,

DISMISS

"Already he's being compared

to Binyamin Netanyahu, who axed

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**RON ARAD** 

they said, it appears to have been the result of a wire attached to several systems in the missile that shortcircuited. The mishap caused the Arrow to spin out of control and prompted an order to destroy the missile seconds after its launch.

"We tested all the systems and all worked well," a defense source said. "We know there is nothing wrong with the conception or the systems in the Pam Rogers, a spokesman for the US Ballistics

Missile Defense Organization in Huotsville, Alabama, said Israeli and US teams would continue to examine the results of the tests before deciding on the next launch. "It's too soon to tell," Rogers said. "They have to

go over the results and see what it means for the next

The failed launch cost the Arrow program \$10 million, defense sources said. But the sources maintained that the failure did not erase the previous successes of

fires workers?"

yesterday.

wrong side. How will the public

have faith in him if he himself

said, "No persons known to sup-

port terrorists were invited to the White House," and not as reported

the entire Likud apparatus and gearing up for the fight of their

brought in his henchmen to run lives against the government,

things," a senior Histadrut source Barak is perceived to be on the

CORRECTION

## for meeting with Hamas

#### BY HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - The State Department shifted course slightly yesterday, mildly criticizing Palestinian Authority chairman Yasser Arafat for his statements at Wednesday's meeting of Islamic opposition groups and his embrace of Hamas leaders.

"We believe that the leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad are the enemies of peace, and we don't think that any of the leaders in the region who are our partners in the search for peace should leave any doubt that there is a tolerance for violence or terror." State Department spokesman James Rubin said.

At his briefing Wednesday, Rubin avoided comment on Arafat's comments. But yesterday he said Arafat's statements do not "help restore" relations Israel and between Palestinians.

What Arafat said "wasn't particularly constructive in trying to bring and restore confidence and trust. On the other hand... he made clear that he does support the peace process and called on the supporters of the peace process to work with him for a just and comprehensive peace." Rubin said.

"So it's never a simple matter to try to parse the words. But clearly we wish be had not said some of the things he said."

July 8, 1997

## State Dept. chides Arafat Jordanian employed by PA to be deported

#### By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Fuad Ismail, a Jordanian resident employed by the Palestinian Authority as the chief military prosecutor for the Ramailah region, will be deported to Jordan early next week.

Ismail was arrested Wednesday by border policemen at the A-Ram junction roadblock after it was discovered that he had no permit to enter Jerusalem. In addition, the serial number of the gun found in his possession did not match the number written on his weapon permit.

Ismail was taken to Russian Compound police station in Jerusalem for further

questioning. During the investigation police discovered that the entry visa stamped on his Jordanian passport was no longer valid.

According to Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby, Ismail had renewed his visa several times, but had been in the country for at least 18 months without renewing it. Ben-Ruby said that Ismail was remanded by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court until Sunday, when a date for his deportation would be set.

Israel regards the incident as a serious violation of the Oslo agreements, which forbid the PA from employing Jordanian residents, Ben-Ruby said.

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## Peace Now alleges new settlement being planned

Peace Now yesterday urged the government to halt alleged plans to turn a Nahal outpost next to Ma'aleb Adumim into a settle-

"We have received information that next week 30 caravans will be taken to the site," of the Evnat outpost, which is a branch of the Tourist College in Ma'aleb Adumim, Peace Now spokeswoman Hagit Ya'ari said.

She said that the local Megilot Regional Council also had plans

to turn the outpost into a holiday village and then a community settlement.

Avi Benayahu, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's media coordinator, denied there are plans to turn Evnat into a holiday village.

He said the ministry also hasn't approved or received any requests for trailers to be moved to the site.

Ya'ari said Peace Now would petition the High Court against any attempts to populate the out-

## Winning Cards and Numbers

in yesterday's daily Chance drawings, the first winning cards were the king of

in yesterday's daily Chance drawings, the first winning cards were the king of spades, queen of hearts, 7 of diamonds, and ace of clubs, and in the second draw were 8 of spades, king of hearts, 10 of diamonds, and jack of clubs. In yesterday's weekly Payis Hazak drawing, ticket number 711952 won NIS 1 million, while ticket number 31352t won the car.

Tickets 094771, 783605, 377696, 462536, 857955, 064386, 217478 and 545600 won NIS 5,000. Tickets ending in 12728, 15323, 97505, 75366, 54659, 02086, 61943, 46345, 34976, 51974, 62095, 06101, 09215, 59352, 42106, 19822, 15342, 76704 and 46609 won NIS 1,000.

Tickets ending in 885, 648, 788 and 047 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 63.

Tickets ending in 885, 648, 788 and 047 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 63. 92, 58 and 33 won NIS 30. Tickets ending in 27 and 31 won NIS 20. And tickets ending in 3 or 6 won NIS 10.

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Joseph Steiner

President

Barry Sherman Legacy Chair

Leo Goldhar · Campaign Chair

Harvey Wolfe President UIAC

in brief

terrorist bombing in Jerusalem's Ramat Eshkol neighborhood, was released from Hadassah's Ein Kerem Hospital yesterday exactly two years since the attack.

"I still don't remember a thing about what happened," she said. "My memory returned only two months after the attack." She had a series of operations on her arm, and still requires orthopedic aids, but is able to walk and even began driving lessons in a special car designed for her disability.

Top politicians setting up fund for the needy

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan and a list of Knesset members from various parties announced plans yesterday to set up a fund for the needy to which they would each donate NIS 1,000 a month from a special salary increase being paid to senior officials. Joining Einan are MKs Yaet Dayan of Labor, Naomi Blumenthal of Likud and Rehavam Ze'evi of Moledet.

Arab League asks help for Palestinians

CAIRO. Egypt - The Arah League has urged member nations to help the Palestinian Authority overcome financial hardships caused by Israel's three-week-old closure, a statement said vesterday. Arab League secretary-general Esmat Abdel-Meguid thanked Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who pledged \$10 million to the Palestinians on Tuesday.

Abdel-Meguid hopes that the league's other 21 nations will follow suit to enable the PA to "face the hlockade policy (closure) and collective punishment imposed by Israel."

Court asked to end bus segregation

The Israel Women's Network has petitioned the High Court to put an end to the segregation of men and women on certain bus lines in Bnei Brak. In its petition against Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy, the network says that segregation violates the Basic Law: Human Freedom and Dignity and is opposed to the principle of equality. They note that the women are told to sit in the back of the bus and that this is degrading and difficult for mothers with small children or women with heavy baskets. The petition also asks for a halt to plans to segregate some Jerusalem Batsheva Tsur

Plane swerves off-course during landing

An Egyptian plane swerved off the runway as it landed at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday morning and hit two light poles. No one was hurt. The pilot of the Air Sinai Boeing 737 arriving from Cairo managed to regain control of the plane and return it

## Israel, Croatia establish ties

Jerusalem Post Staff

After holding secret talks in Budapest, Israel and Croatia announced yesterday the establishment of diplomatic ties.

In its statement, Croatia apologized "for crimes committed against the lewish people during the Nazi period" and by the Croatian regime at that time. Fascism, racial hatred, xeno-

phobia and antisemitism are abhorrent and are condemned by the democratic government and people of the Republic of Croatia." added the statement signed by Hrvoje Sarinic, head of the Office of the President of the Republic of Croatia

Israel was represented by Eitan Bentsur, the Foreigo Ministry's director-general.

He expressed "great interest" in Croatia's achievement of independence in addition ic "the importance which the people of Croatia today attach to values of freedom and democra-

Tudiman also plans a visit to Israel

to apologize personally for crimes perpetrated by some of his people during the Holocaust, the Foreign

Several months back Israel was cool to Zagreb's feelers for forging ties after Tudjman published a book called Horrors of War which

> Delegation threatens to withhold US aid to PA

contained quotes deemed antise-

A revised edition has been

published omitting the offensive

passages, Croatia's statement

Tudjman has expressed interest

in building close cooperation with

Israel in the fields of defense and

By STEVE RODAN

A visiting delegation of US congressmen, expressing alarm over Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's embrace of Hamas, warned yesterday Congress will not renew aid to the PA unless it wages a successful battle against terrorism.

Members of the delegation also warned that if Arafat refuses to combat terrorism, the Israeli-Palestinian peace process will collapse.
"We want to see not only efforts,"

said Rep. Benjamin Gilman [R-NY], chairman of the House International Relations Committee, "We want to see results. We want them to live op to their commitments. Until they do, we will hold back funds."

The delegation was scheduled to meet with Arafat in Ramallah last night and members said they would relay this to him.

Earlier, the delegation toured Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda market, the scene of the suicide bombings on June 30 that killed 14 people and injured more than 170.

Gilman said he was not convinced Arafat was genuine in fulfilling his commitments under Oslo Accords, including the battle against terrorism and the PLO charter revision.

"So far, we have not been convinced that the PLO charter has been changed," Gilman said. "Some speak of 100 percent efforts, Some want 100% results, Arafat must make good on his commitments. Without such a commitment, there can't be a process. Yasser Arafat has come to a fork in the road. He must

The annual \$100 million in aid to the PA was cut off on August 13, but congressional sources say the move only affected about 30 percent of the funding. The rest has already been allocated to projects sponsored by the US Agency for International Development.

An amendment sponsored by Rep. James Saxton [R-NI] would cut off all funding to the PA.

A senior congressional source said the State Department plans to lobby hard to renew aid to the PA, when Congress returns from recess early next month.

Another member of the delegation, Rep. Eliot Engel [D-NY], said Congress will not rush to restore aid to the PA. "We're going to give this a harder and longer look after the terrorist attacks," he said. "We believe that Yasser Arafat has to go after terrorists and until he does, we will be reluctant to help him."

Engel also said he would tell Arafat of his concern over the PA's renewal of dialogue with Hamas and

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## Official in PM's Office blasts Weizman

US Congressman Benjamin Gilman, Chairman of the House International Affairs Committee, walks through Mahaneh Yehnda with Tsafi Adorian, whose husband Eli was killed in last month's bombing, prior to yesterday's memorial ceremony.

(Brian Hendler)

US group holds Mahaneh Yehuda

memorial ceremony

market represents life in Israel,

adding that its distinctively national

character may have been the reason

it was chosen as the terrorists' target.

diplomatic aspects of the antiter-

rorism issue as it is being played

out in the US, Gilman noted that

the State Department "failed" to

submit a report to Congress on

Arafat's compliance or non-com-

pliance with its demand that the PA fight terrorism.

By not issuing the report in mid-July, as requested, the State Department made it obvious even

before the latest tragedy," that the

US government could not certify

that Arafat and the PA were comply-

ing with their commitment, he said.

eve of the memorial ceremony,

Hoenlein credited President

Clinton with having encouraged and supported the omnihus antiterrorism hill "despite the

reservations harbored hy some members of his administration.

Hoenlein said it took 18 months to

He praised the president's deter-

mination to stand up to terrorism.

While various Arab-American

groups which favor the regional

peace process have been wel-

comed to the White House, per-

sons known to support Hamas or

get it through Congress.

in the US and abroad.

In an interview conducted on the

Referring to the political and

By BATSHEVA TSUR

By JAY BUSHINSKY

A memorial ceremony yesterday

at the site of last month's Mahaneh

Yehuda suicide bombing inspired

Benjamin Gilman that Palestinian

Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat

The chairman of the House

International Affairs Committee said

that there can be no peace process

without a "core commitment" by

Arafat to security and non-violence.

We came together to memorial-

ize the 14 innocent people - young

and old, men and women - who

were cogaged in everyday activi-

ties," Gilman said. "The suicide

bombers were intent on killing

Jews and Israelis and in destroying

At his side were US Ambassador

Martin Indyk and Mayor Ehud

Olmert. The audience was comprised of a Congressional delega-tion as well as otembers of the

Conference of Presidents of Major

American Jewish Organizations

headed by its executive vice chair-

man, Malcolm Hoenlein, as well

Gilman said it was ironic that

"these terrifying explosions, so

heinous in their destruction," took

place at the street name for the tree

Indyk said the Mahaneh Yehuda

of life - Rehov Etz Ha'haim.

as shoppers and vendors.

he peace process."

declare war on terrorism.

iervent demand from Rep.

Arye Shumer, the director-general of the President's Bureau yesterday called for the dismissal of a senior official in the Prime Minister's Office who reportedly said that President Ezer Weizman is "undermining" the prime minister and government.

Ma ariv ran the accusations in its lead story yesterday. Quoting an unnamed senior source in the Prime Minister's Office, the paper said that "Weizman pushes himself in everywhere and causes damage.. he interferes in matters that do not belong to him, is pathetic, and wants to earn a sec-

ond term of office at any price." With reference to his upcoming visit to Washington, the official reportedly said: "Weizman used pressure to be received by President Bill Clinton and one can imagine what he will tell

The official added that the elected government, not the president, is supposed to conduct foreign

"it is possible that there is someone in the Prime Minister's Office that does not like what I am doing, asked for his response.

Asked about his remarks in the doing enough on a day-to-day basis and that the complaints of people there are valid, Weizman said: "[Foreign Minister] David Levy said the same thing. I have slept there three times when there were Karyusha attacks. Jealousv sometimes makes people go

He added that he is not aware of any problem between him and the

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu reportedly was "furious" when he heard the official's remarks. "These remarks were made without my permission and, moreover, they are the exact opposite of my position," he was quot-ed as saying. "I admire and am very fond of the president."

He said the close relations between them have "become even stronger recently." During his Caesarea vacation last week, Netanyahu and his family twice visited the Weizmans informally. Asked whether Netanyahu planned to dismiss the official.

but I do what I have to do," his spokesman Shai Bazak told Weizman told Ma'ariv wheo Educational TV's Erev Hadash his spokesman Shai Bazak told yesterday: "We are not involved io investigations and axing North that the government is not staff... The president and prime minister work together well and will know how to do so in the

tour of the market yesterday.

who are suspected of being direct-

ly or indirectly linked to any Middle Eastern terrorist activities

never have been on the

Presidential guest list, he went on.

Department will publish a list of

terrorist organizations as required

hy Congress, attributing the delay

to legal considerations.

Hoenlein was certain the State

In a conversation from Washington, Shumer stressed that whenever Weizman meets with foreign leaders, he stresses that Netanyahu is the address for political negotiations.

Referring to a speech made by

Nabil Ramlawi, the Palestine

Liberation Organization's repre-sentative to the UN in Geneva.

who accused Israel of injecting Palestinian children with the AIDS

virus, Hoenlein said the US dele-

gate, Nancy Ruhin, has written a letter demanding that the UN repu-

diate it "on and for the record."

Bazak confirmed that the president's upcoming Washington visit, planned for October 4, is being coordinated between Shumer, and senior officials in the Prime

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Mayor Ehud Olmert (left) and Benjamin Gilman during their

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Ms. Calderon Ben-Shachar is currently the Chairperson at "Alma" Hebrew College, and Mr. Bar-Or is the Director of Amutat "Kolot".

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## Kiss of death?

Te're going to judge Chairman Arafat hy deeds. Deeds are the coin of the realm when it comes to fighting terrorism." So says US State Department spokesman James Ruhin, in response to the "unity conference" in Gaza, and the chilling pictures of Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat kissing leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jibad.

A kiss is just a kiss, we are to believe. The question is whether it will be the kiss of death for the expectation that Arafat would fight terrorism. and therefore for the peace process itself.

The United States, though critical of the Gaza conference, remains coovinced that Arafat will actively fight terrorism, as he committed to do in the Oslo Accords. The credibility of such a stance, bowever, is poised at the breaking point. If an American president had declared war on the Mafia and then publicly embraced Al Capone, oo one would take bis declared war seriously. Yet in Arafat's case, we are expected to understand that appearances are deceiving, that the words spoken and the gestures made are only to appease his violent opponents, while what bappens on the ground is another matter.

The problem with this hopeful interpretation of Arafat's behavior is that terrorism is fought not just by aggressive police work, but hy its rejection oo a political, strategic and moral basis. The worst thing Arafat has said about terrorism is that it is had for the Palestinians. Though he has condemned individual terrorist actions and expressed bis condoleoces to Israeli leaders, such expressions are kept as formal as

At no point bas Arafat spoken out against terrorism as a method, as a tactic to achieving Palestinian political aims. He does not say that terrorism is no longer moral or justified now that Israel and the Palestinians have recognized each other's political rights, and now that the final-status talks could begin at any moment.

At the Gaza conference, atteoded by a Who's Who of terrorist leaders, such as George Habash and Naif Hawatmeh, Arafat did not conditioo his embrace on the renunciation of terrorism. On the contrary, Arafat said pointedly "all options are open." His message to the anti-Oslo opposition was, in essence, "I'm OK, you're OK. You believe it is good to seed buman bombs into a are in serious breach of their commitment to crowded marketplace; I don't - we have a legit- combat terrorism. Unless and until the US imate difference of opinion."

The realpolitik view that such a stance is con-

Sir. - Susan Hattis Rolef, in a

classic case of PLO-apologist

thinking ("Yes, hut...," August 4)

believes that it is wrong of us to

really expect Arafat to crack down

on terror groups. She brings forth

the usual arguments we've heard

before (Arafat can't risk losing

support of his people, he can't

control the terror groups anyway,

etc.) along with an interesting new

one - that Arafat's people won't

tolerate him "cooperating with

foreigners whom they perceive as

enemies," i.e., the Israelis. She

even goes so far as to compare this

with the attitude of the Yishuv

Ms. Rolef seems to be convenient-

ly forgetting an important point:

Arafat signed agreements with us,

Sir, - Sometime around 1915,

my father, Mordecai Isser Taub,

nrganized a bicultural school in

Bialystok, Poland, of which he

was principal-headmaster. One of

his teachers, Esther Grondowski,

subsequently became his wife and

The school undertook a then-

revolutionary mission still rele-

vant to issues currently con-

fronting educational institutions

throughout Western civilization.

(Gesher) has earned my deepest

respect for his cnurageous call

my mother.

towards the British 53 years ago!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

saying he could and would "cooper-

ate." That was in essence the entire

gist of the Oslo agreements - we

give him control over centain lands,

and he does what is necessary to give

us peace. What good are these agree-

ments if he can't deliver the goods?

n't "expect them to tolerate"

Arafat's cooperation with us, then

what exactly were the Oslo

Of course, Ms. Rolef knows

where to place the real blame -

where else but on the shoulders of

our government, for not having a

policy geared toward a settlement

Palestinians' minimal demands."

Never mind that these "minimal

demands" amount to near-full

THE BIALYSTOCK HEBREW HIGH SCHOOL

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it subsequently provided grades

kindergarten through gymnasia

and became known as The

Bialystok Hebrew High School,

educating Jewish youth of

Bialystok for competency, both as

practitioners of the cultural, ethi-

cal and spiritual tradioons of the

ancient Jewish nation and as

members of the scienofic, indus-

**COURAGEOUS CALL** 

was a decision and an act that

wnuld markedly reduce the

trial and commercial institutions

of modern Poland/Europe.

"accords with the

accords all about, anyway?

If. as Ms. Rolef says, we should-

stretches the imagination. It is, perhaps, theoretically possible that Arafat could fight terrorism and embrace terrorists at the same time. But, since the Mahaneh Yehuda bombing three weeks ago, there has been no massive wave of arrests by Arafat as happened after the suicide bomhings in February and March of last year.

The skeleton of security cooperation has been reestablished by a series of three-way (Israel-Palestinians-US) meetings, and hy a reported meeting between General Security Service head Ami Ayalon and Arafat oo Tuesday. But as of yet, there is no evidence that Arafat is doing anything but the absolute minimum to fight terrorism.

It is oow clearer than ever that Arafat will not fight terrorism because it is right, or because he has committed to do so, or even because it is in bis enlightened self-interest. For Arafat, fighting terrorism is bitter medicine to be resisted at

Last time, it took a string of four deadly attacks and the prospect of Shimon Peres losing the Israeli elections for Arafat to take serious action. This time, eveo though the US has turned up the rhetorical heat and Israel is exerting substantial financial pressure, Arafat does not yet feel compelled to act.

Arafat does not feel under decisive pressure because, unlike when Peres was prime minister, Arafat feels that his inaction can be blamed on the Israeli government. The Netanyahu governmeot is vulnerable to blame because, even in US eyes, it bas not graduated out of its probationary status and become a member of good standing in the peace process,

While US governments have for a long time believed that Israel needed to be pressured into making peace, Prime Minister Bioyamin Netanyahu came into office with a particularly large cloud of doubt over his head. However justified that doubt may initially have been, the American peace team now knows - after the Hebron agreement and the Netanyahu drive to accelerate final-status talks - that this government is no less committed to the peace process than was the previous government.

The US continues to refuse to say that, in the big picture, Israel is delivering on its commitment to gradually transfer territory and sovereignty to the Palestinians, while the Palestinians decides to credit Israel with a fundamental commitment to peace, Arafat will not feel under decisistent with a serious fight against terrorism sive pressure to deliver his side of the bargain.

capitulation. So, not only is Arafat

not to blame for signing agreements

which be can't - or won't - abide

by, but we are to hiame for not set-

ting policy with enough conces-

sions to appease him, even beyond

anything written in the agreements.

settlement policy, or any of the security-related policies of the gov-

emment. That's Rolef's right, and I

can respect her opinion even as I

disagree with it. It's quite another

to not even expect our supposed

"partner" to live up to his part of

the deal. I can't respect that - and I

seriously doubt that anyone else.

including the PLO, can respect us

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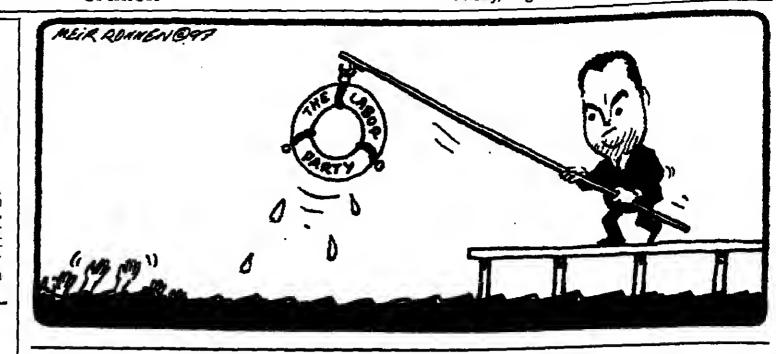
**MURRAY GINGOLD** 

HERMAN P. TAUB

FRADA SIVON

when we adopt that attitude.

It's one thing to disagree with



## Dual loyalty or disloyalty

The visit of Israeli Arab leaders and one Druse MK to Syria is an unprecedented event. Never before have members, far less leaders, of our minority community dared visit a

country at war with us. The significance of this journey to the land of the enemy lies not in the "messages" they delivered in Damascus or brought with them on their return, nor in the incongruous idea that Israeli Arabs can constitute a bridge for the resolu-tion of the Israeli-Arab conflict. Rather, it is the visit itself that is

the message. The Syrian dictator does oot need Israeli Arabs as intermediaries to relay messages to our government - far more conventional and trustworthy channels are available for that. For Hafez Assad, it was a transparent effort to manipulate the Israeli Arab community as a counterweight to. the policies of the democratically elected government of Israel. It is a clear indication that Assad, although lacking any experience in democratic government, understands the potential feverage that the large Arab community in Israel has on the political scene by virtue of its voting power.

As to sincerely promoting peace, he, better than many Israelis, understands that the Arab-Israeli conflict is essentially

a conflict between Arabs and Jews, and that the Istaeli Arab population can at best serve as sympathetic onlookers while Arab and Jewish leaders attempt to resolve it.

As for the Israeli Arab leaders who were prepared to visit Syria under the label of "Palestinians from occupied Palestine" and there declare their support for Circassian, and some of the Beduin citizens of Israel, the vast majority of Israel's Arah population does not serve in the IDF. What started out as a pragmatic arrangement in the early years of Israel's statehood has over the years been raised to a question of principle": You cannot expect Arabs to fight Arabs, it is said.

That would not be considered a

#### Sharing the burden of the defense of your country is the ultimate test of loyalty

Syria's posicions, is it a matter of dual loyalty or disloyalty to the State of Israel? And do they reflect the sentiments of Israel's Arab population?

Dual loyalty, and sometimes even disloyalty, are charges that the Jewisb people have had to face in the countries of the Diaspora. That these charges were groundless was proven time and again by the many Jews who served in the armed forces of the countries of which they were citizens. After all, sharing the burden of the defense of your country is the ultimate test of loyalty.

UNLIKE the Jewish, Druse, worse, embellishing it with legiti-

valid excuse for oon-service in the armed forces of any other democratic country. Aggression against Israel endangers the life and property of all its citizens, and Arabs have fought Arabs in Lebanon, in Yemen, in Algeria, and all over the Arab world. Should our Druse soldiers be freed from performing military service because Druse also serve in the Syrian and

Lehanese armies? This is a dangerous principle which violates the basic requirement that all citizens, regardless of origin or religion, share equally In the obligations of citizenship. Acceptance of this principle or,

macy opens the door to the kind of nutrageous behavior we were treated to recently in Damascus.

Even though most of the Arah population does not serve in the iDF, the leadership of Israel's Arab community has taken great care in past years to refrain from any contact with our enemies and from openly expressing support for their posicions. But ever since the Oslo Accords, there has been a percepoble change.

The visit to Damascus has set a new marker which can be ignored only at our peril. This is as good a time as any to reexamine the relationship between the minority populadon and the state, and the obligations they have to each other.

Great progress has been made in recent years toward equalizing the position of Israel's Arabs with that of their Jewish compatriots. Much still needs to be done, especially for the Beduin.

On the other hand, Arab citizens oot serving in the IDF is an anomaly that cannot continue to exist , for any appreciable time without seriously endangering the integri-ty of our society. They, themselves, will probably never feel truly equal and at home here until their sons wear the uniform of the

Particular of the second

The writer is a former defense

## A policy of his own

MARK A. HELLER

be worst dilemma for politicians stems from the oced to avoid being seen to do what they need to do. Yet this is precisely where the Mahaneh Yehuda bombing left both Binyamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat.

opposition leader. Netanyahu raked the previous government over the coals for responding to terrorist attacks by imposing only temporary sanctions on the Palestinian Authority, then continuing with the peace process. He could, therefore, not appear to be doing the same sort of thing, even if was clear immediately after the bombing that he would nitimately have little

choice but to do so. And Arafat, after insisting that he would not take orders from Israel. could not allow himself to be portrayed as a collaborator, even though it was clear immediately after the bombing that he would have little choice but to meet at least

some of Netanyahu's demands. But while their dilemma might be similar, Neranyahu's is more serious, and his attempts to resolve it have resulted in procedures that will significantly constrain his freedom of maneuver in the future. In particular, his response to the bomhing has led to a far more intrusive American role in Israeli-Palestinian relaonns than any Israeli government ever

Despite Netanyahu's reputation as a counter-terrorism expert and his insistence that this is a different government with a different policy, it is oot easy to be innovaove in dealing with suicide bombers. Even the metoric used by government spokesmeo to explain the sanctions against the PA - "We do not expect 100 percent results, but we demand 100 percent effort" - was plagiarized from Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon

And most of the measures soon after they were imposed: imposed were also taken from the previous government's playbook: cessation of negotiations (which were about to be resumed), inter-

nal and external closure, and cancellation of special privileges for holders of Palestinian VIP passes. Netanyahn's one original contrihution was the suspension of the transfer of taxes collected by

"Humanitarian" exceptions to the external closure multiplied, and the internal closure was progressively lifted from all areas except Bethlehem (where Israeli and Palestinian security forces are still looking for Muhi Sharif and Mohammed Deif, the presumed successors of Ythya Ayyash).

#### Netanyahu's 'different' approach to suicide bombings has led to increased US involvement in the peace process

Israel from Palestinians on behalf of the PA.

These measures involve a conceptual contradiction. They cannot be sustained for very long before the consequences for the Israeli government (foreign and domestic criticism, undermining of Arafat's authority, and strengthening of radical Palestinian forces) become intolerable, but they cannot be eased unless the PA meets counter-terrorism performance criteria which are almost impossible to define.

Besides, Arafat was cooperating more than his rhetoric suggested. His security people picked up 250 Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Democracic Front for the Liberadon of Palestine suspects for interrogation and made samples of explosives from the bomb factories uncovered in Beit Sahur and Kalkilya available to the General Security Service.

Given the underlying conceptu-al problem and the fact of PA security cooperation, the rationale for maintaining the pressure was quickly undermined, and the most severe measures were hedged

BUT none of this resolved the problem of the one measure that made Netanyahu's response "different." The withholding of payments to the PA is particularly problematic both on legal grounds the funds are not Israeli aid to the Palestinians, hut Palestinian money which Israel collects for technical reasons) and on political

grounds (it limits Arafat's ability to continue paying the salaries and ensuring the loyalty - of the Palestinian bureaucracy and security forces). As a result, exhortaoons to ease up, even from the security community, were focused precisely on this issue. Unfortunately, there was no political or journalistic fig-leaf

that Netanyahu could point to to justify rescinding "his" contribution to the counter-terrorism arsenal - until the PA caught and convicted the three Jericho residents who murdered Jerusalem taxi-driver Shmuel Ben-Baruch.

Some cynics have asked whether the release of 30% of the blocked funds means that Arafat has done precisely 30% of what is required from him. What it really

meaos is that Netanyahu has repealed 30% of the one component of his response to terrorism that differed from that of Rabin and Peres; the other 70% will be gone by the end of the month.

But there will remain an important difference between the way the Israeli-Palestinian relacionship was managed before the last election and the way it will be managed oow - and that is that it has

been turned into a trilateral affair. Given the conditions about security cooperation that she laid out in her Nacional Press Club speech earlier this month, US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's trip to the region will inevitably be interpreted as an American seal of approval for whatever Arafat has or has not done up till then.

If Netanyahu had waited until her arrival (or just before), he would have had to hand over the money anyway, or else risk insulting Albright. But if he had done that, his own supporters would have criticized bim for acting according to American assessments, rather than his own. Better to preempt, and at least look as if is he acting independently.

In fact, if Netanyahu is not acting in response to Albright's arrival, he is acting (almost certainly against his own inclinations) in anticipation of it. This is symptomatic of the intensified US involvement in the Palestinian track (also exemplified by the publicized presence of CIA representatives at the Israeli-Palestinian security meetings last week), and that is something which will ultimately cause Netanyahu far more trouble than the bomh in Mahaneb Yehuda.

The writer is senior research associate at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv

### FROM OUR ARCHIVES

tn his colleagues tn reduce their overexiended hudget.

Sir, - MK Michael Kleiner own highly inflated salaries. It

60 years agn: On August 22, 1937, The Palestine Past reported that the plenary meeting of the Jewish Agency Council held at composed of seven Zionists and five nnn-Zionists rejected the assertion of Lord Peel's Royal Commission on Palestine that the Mandate for Palestine was proved unworkable. It asked the Briosh Government to convene a conference of Arabs and Jews to explore the possibilities of a peaceful settlement in an undivided Palestine.

50 years ago: On August 22, 1947, The Palestine Post reported that "We will never land!" was the unanimous reply given by the Zurich and the new Executive Exadus 1947 "illegal" immigrants to Palestine held aboard the three British "floating cages" at Port de Bouc to the British Consul-General wbo came with an ulomatum that unless they began to disembark in France

they would be sent to Germany. A number of British soldiers were injured and oil tostallations damaged in underground attacks throughout Palestine.

Two lews were murdered in Rabka in Poland by a gang of anosemites dressed in uniforms of General Anders's army. Further antisemitic excesses were reported from Poland and Austria.

25 years ago: On Angust 22, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that the US Secretary of State William Rogers had renewed his proposal for proximity talks between Israel and Egypt. Alert bathers foiled a bomb

attempt in Netanya.

### POSTSCRIPTS

WHEN PEOPLE discover that something in the bouse is making them sick, they get rid of it, right? Gness again. Not when that something is a dog or cat, a study of 341 adults in Vancouver has

Many people would apparently rather suffer than part with the one member of the family wbo bestows unconditional love.

Each person studied by Dr. Stanley Coren, a professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia, had been found to be allergic to dogs or cats, and each had been advised by a doctor to cease sharing living quarters with a pet. But barely one person in five complied with these instruccions.

And 122 of the people studied bad been found to be allergic to pets long enough agn for the animal they had been living with at the time to have died. But 70 percent had replaced the dead pet with a new dog or cat.

Coren concluded that "apparently many people find pets sufficiently important to their lifestyle that they are willing to ignore both chronic allergic symptoms and specific medical advice in order to continue living with

"Clearly, there would be a huge market for allergy shots that could effectively desensitize people to

GREAT MOMENTS in scienofic research: we now know that male budgies are far more likely to be tempted into an illicit affair when out of sight of his vengeful male.

Researchers Aliza Baltz and Anne Clark suspect male budgies wanted to avoid getting into trouble with their mates, or even being dumped,

The behavioral ecologists from Binghampton University, New York, said the small green parrots usually live in stable pairs when raising their young. During the breeding season, males hring home the food while females

Baltz and Clark studied 13 pairs of budgies as they were starting

guard the nest.

to breed. They watched each pair together for 30 minutes then put the male in a cage a meter away. Next to the male's case, behind a screen, was a caged female he had not met before.

The researchers then gave each male two chances to "interact" with the new female - once under the stern stare of his mate and once while she was hidden behind a screen.

They then recorded the number of times the males engaged in bouts of head-bobbing, their dis-

tinctive courting behavior. "It turned out that almost three quarters of the action occurred when their mates could not see them," their report said.

Bb2. The d5 pawn drives a great

 $h_{B,H}$ 

Jewish women's rights organizations are vocal and responsive. Nonetheless, we Jewish women have failed to achieve full equality in any area of private or public life. Can it be that a country like Iran

justice and equality? Will Ebtekar succeed where we have failed?

physically attacked and verbally

abused by religious extremists in

Jerusalem because they chose to

dress in summer elothes which

enough. The Super Sol supermar-

ket chain has installed "modesty

guards" at several of its stores. In

these stores, women are not per-

the haredi customers.

were not considered modest

Overseas Department of Na amat.

## When silence is not golden

aybe I have been wrong these past two years. Maybe Americans should stop travelling to Israel, After all, you are murdered by a Palestinian terrorist, that's your tough luck.

Those are not truly my feelings but it is the message that some of us are getting. The "us" are the parents and families of those Americans who have lost sons and daughters, sisters and brothers, mothers and fathers, to the suicide bombers and others who are so inteot on not letting Jews live in the State of Israel. The message is coming not from the Palestinian side, but from our

I recently received the horrifying news that the Palestinian Authority has released a terrorist who, according to the Israeli govemmeot, was involved in the 1995 bombing attack in which my

daughter, Alisa, was murdered. A 35-page report issued by the Israeli government on July 20, 1997, stated that in recent months, the PA "has released dozens of terrorists from detention, including... Nabil Sharihi, who helped prepare the bomh used in the April 1995 Kfar Darom attack in which seven Israelis and one American [Alisa] were killed."

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Unfortunately, this is not the only case in which suspects in the murders of Americans have been identified and found to be living in territory controlled by the PA.

For instance: The PA has Ignored Israel's request to hand over Muhi Sharif, who transported the explosives to the terrorist who carried out the Aogust 21, 1995 Jerusalem bus bombing, in which five people, including Connecticut school teacher Joan Davenny, were mur-

• The PA has ignored Israel's request to hand over Nafez Mahmoud Sabih, who helped plan the Fehruary 25, 1996 Jerusalem bus bombing, in which Jewish Theological Seminary studeot Matthew Eisenfeld, of Connecticut, and his fiancee, Sara Duker, of New Jersey, were mur- which permits the US to prose- study in Israel.

STEPHEN M. FLATOW

 Amjad Hanawi, who is suspected of involvement in the May 1996 murder of David Boim, 17, a dual Israeli-American citizen, was imprisoned by the PA, but then was given a vacation from fail in February 1997. He never returned. Another American citizen, Moshe Greenbaum, 17, was wounded in the same attack.

· Amin Hindi, who is currently

**US Jewish leaders** must speak out against the PA's release of terrorists who murdered **Americans** 

the head of Yasser Arafat's General Intelligence Service, masterminded the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre of 11 athletes, including David Berger, of Cleveland, a dual Israeli-American citizen.

Yet, since the issuance of the report, to my knowledge only one American Jewish organization, the Zionist Organization of America, has seen fit to take note of the situation and to ask the American government to act.

l AM publicly asking our Jewish leaders to speak out against the Palestinian Authority's release of Sharihi and to urge the United States government to use all means at its disposal to ensure the arrest and prosecution of Sharihi and others suspected in the murders of American citizens. The morality of the situation requires

oothing less. If, for some reason, Arafat will not transfer Sharihi to Israel for prosecution (as is required by the Oslo Accords), then we should demand he be transferred to the US for prosecution under the provisions of the Anti-Terrorism Act,

cute an individual who murders an American abroad.

Special Mideast cnvoy Dennis Ross recently said that America cannot ask for extradition of Nafez Sabih (suspect in the Duker-Eisenfeld murders) because "one of the obstacles to doing that is the fact that the US does not have an extradition treaty with the PA," but that is not the case.

According to Malvina Halberstam, a law school professor and former counselor on international law in the Office of the Legal Adviser at the State Department, Ross is wrong. Halberstam has stated:

"While it is correct that we do not have an extradition treaty with the PA, that does not mean that Nafez Sabih cannot be transferred to the US for trial. Even states that have extra- dition treaties with each other often use other means of rendition such as deportation. If the PA wants to hand over Sabih to the US for trial, it can certainly find a way to do so. The problem is that, thus far, the US has not requested the PA to do

If our leadership is afraid of upsetting the Oslo apple cart, it should remember that it doesn't bother the PA when its release of terrorists and its inaction in ending the terror threat allows others to knock over the push carts at Mahaneh Yehuda and to enlarge the circle of victims and their

Failure to pursue Sharihi and his ilk sends a message to terrorists everywhere that if they murder Americans, they will not be pun-

It is bad enough that the State Department warns Americans against travelling in Israel. When American Jewish leaders are ilent, they do the same.

The writer is the father of Alisa Flatow, a victim of the 1error attack at Kfar Darom on April 9. 1995. He is the founder of the Alisa Flatow Memorial Fund which provides scholarships for



## Haredim in the zoo

aredim have a public relations problem. As far as the secular media are eoncerned, they are the Jews who aren't there.

That does not mean, of course, that the haredim are not covered in: the media. Quite the opposite. The media obsession with haredim finds its nearest parallel in the UN's obsession with Israel. (Standards of accuracy in both cases are roughly comparable.)

But while haredim are objects of discussion, they are not partieipants. The widespread assumption appears to be that no one in the haredi community is capable of articulating the community's world view in an intellectually cohereot manner.

When issues involving the community arise, aligned on one side of the debate will be Jerusalem city councilman Ornan Yekutieli, MK Naomi Chazan, ct. al., and, on the other side, Dr. Menahem Friedman or some other academie specializing in the haredi community. But haredim will not be per-

mitted to speak for themselves. In short, haredim are viewed as fit objects of sociological and anthropological study, rather than as legitimate participants in the national debate. The only haredim ever quoted are those with a talent for self-promotion and providing good copy in the form of shock headlines, such as Yehoda Meshi-Zahav, self-styled "director of

operations" for the Eda Haredit. The only time that haredim can be assured of access to the media is to condemn someone within their own community. Thus after the Shavuot confrontation at the Western Wall, rabbinic leaders were urged to publicly condemn the spitting and epithets or have it assumed they condoned it. Ignored was the repeated public rejection of violence as a means by all haredi authoritics, most recently in the controversy over the Shabbat elosiog Jerusalcm's Rehov Bar-Ilan, when posters decrying violence signed by leading religious authorities appeared throughout

Jerusalem. Those who had never sought the views of rabbis on any issue of national concern suddenly proffered them a band on the cable spectrum, albeit for the exclusive purpose of apologizing. Not surprisingly, the generous offer was not seized upon.

### **JONATHAN ROSENBLUM**

THE relegation of haredim to the realm of bistorical euriosities adversely affects both the secular majority and the haredim. The former are cut off from those with the most profound knowledge of our common heritage: the Torah of Israel. Even more important, secular Jews are denied exposure to those for whom Judaism is most vibrant – a living, pulsing, allencompassing way of life, not an artifact for oostalgic viewing in some museum.

Haredim too are injured by their exclusioo from the national

Treating haredim as historical curiosities adversely affects both the secular majority and the haredim

debate. First, they are not forced to present traditional Judaism m terms that are understandable to those who start from different pre-

suppositions. But the problem goes deeper than that. Of necessity, the education of haredi children involves instilling them with a deep revulsion to all that is antithetical to Torah values in the surrounding society. It is not an education that starts from the premise that all truth is relative, and then tells the

young, "Choose for yourself." The danger for haredim in the negation of the surrounding society, however, is that in the process they will forget that society is composed of fellow Jews. For the haredi Jew, his role in life is to reveal the beauty of God's Torah through his words and deeds. But when haredim are consigned to their own enclaves and not allowed to speak to the broader poblic, the danger increases that they will forget

about their audience. Finally, the perception that the secular media will eagerly seize upon any lapses in the haredi community, but never allow that community to present itself in a favorable light can lend itself to a situation in which pressing issues within the community are oot adequately addressed. The fear of washing our dirty laundry in

#### publie" stifles the open discussion necessary to finding solutions.

While haredim believe that the Torah is the blueprint for the perfection of buman society, they are under no illusion - contrary to what much of the secular public thinks - that they have achieved that perfection. Self-criticism

engrained in the haredi mindset. The calls for collective repentance, for instance, that issue from the haredi world after every national tragedy are directed inward not outward. They are oot, as is frequently charged, attempts to lay the blame for all that befalls us on the secularists.

The prophet Jonah's declaration "because of me is this great tempest," even though he was surrounded by idol worshipers, is an expression of the classic Jewish view: Our collective fate is determined first and foremost by those with the greatest awareness of God. Thus when haredim refrain from addressing their own shortcomings because of fear of a hostile media, they are being deterred from an essential spiritu-

Both the haredi and secular worlds would benefit from a situation in which a column like this is oot an anomaly, and a haredi writer for a general andience did not have to worry that he is being judged, to paraphrase Dr. Johnson, hy the standards of dogs walking on their hind legs - the amazing thing is not that they do it well, hut that they do it at all.

The writer is a biographer and comments on current events.

## Congratulations, Massoomeh Ebtekar! or the first time in the histo-

ry of Iran, a woman has been appointed vice president. She is Prof. Massoomen Ebtekar of Teheran University.

Almost two years ago, Ebtekar and I sat together for 11 days in Beijing at the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women. Since delegates from various nations sit alphabetically by country, as an Israeli delegate I found myself sitting a few seats away from Ebtekar and the rest of the Iranian has oot seen fit to appoint a in either rabbinical courts or delegation.

As we worked long hours into the night drafting the Platform for Action, the document adopted by all of the member states at the end of the conference, we shared thoughts on how best to improve the status of women and ensure equality for girls and women all over the world.

Among the areas of critical concern at the conference was "the inequality between men and women in the sharing of power and decision making at all levels." As an Israeli women's rights lawyer, I can only be a hit envious as I congratulate Ebtekar and the new president of Iran for appointing such an educated, qualified woman to the vice presidency of her country.

According to newspaper reports, she was educated in the US and holds a doctorate in chemistry. In addition to the vice presidency, Ebtekar has been appointed director of the Department of the Environment.

Mohammed Khatami, the new president of Iran, received enormous support from the women of

#### **SHARON SHENHAV**

his country during the recent election and promised to appoint women to leading positions in his government. He has made a good beginning on his campaign promis-

es with the appointment of Ebtekar Sadly, in Israel, our political leaders are oot so gender conscious. Despite a plethora of qualified women, our prime minister only, as women cannot be judges

than those faced by their counterparts here.

Take, for example, the issue of marriage and divorce. Religious law governs in these areas and eivil marriage does oot exist. Women in Israel are forced to divorce in religious courts where religious law is interpreted by men

As a women's rights lawyer. I can only be a bit envious of Iran for appointing a woman vice president

woman to be his depoty. In fact, women are rarely seen in decision-making forums and the idea of equality between the sexes m the sharing of power is a joke.

Women's rights activists in our region will be watching with interest to see if and how Ebtekar uses her new position to improve the social, economic, and political status of Iranian women. One of her greatest challenges, which we will be following with special interest, is how she and her colleagues will deal with the influence of religion on the rights of women to marry and divorce, to participate actively in public life and to dress according to their taste.

ALTHOUGH we are proud that we live in a Western-style democratic state, the problems faced by Iranian women are not so different

shariya (Moslem religious law)

Discrimination against women in the religious courts is well doc-umented and the painful problem of agunot is recognized as a serious denial of Jewish women's human rights. Childless Jewish widows are in limbo for years as they wait for their brothers-in-law to agree to grant halina.

dress as immodestly as they please. Last summer, women employees

elected womeo to sit on these councils. The cases include Efrat, Jerusalem, Netanya and Haifa.

abroad are probably the most highly educated and well organized group of women in the world.

And then there's the issue of clothing, which seems to be a problem only for women; men can of the Ministry of Education were

will prove to be more responsive to the demands of its women for

The writer is director of the

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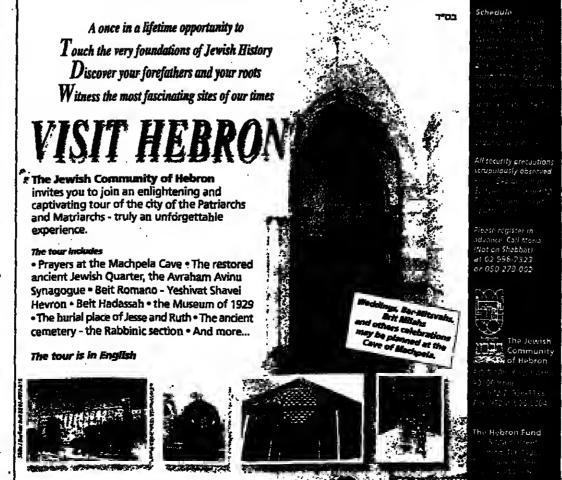
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Column One



The secret of Great Britain would appear to be that it is much greater than the sum of its parts. That explains why it is mainly the English who are so affeared of splitting up the United Kingdom. (What sort of identity crisis is this - a former empire that cant even settle on one name for itself?)

It may also explain why there is blessed relief that a leader of the stature of Tony Blair has emerged to forge a new image for the nation. That's why it is still giving him an 80 percent approval rating after his first 100 days in office. Who would have believed we would ever live to see a Labor politician streets ahead of royalty in British opinion polls?

There is nothing wrong with some (or sum) of the parts of Britain. But, to digress to anecdote, after flying into London from a recent week in Scotland with some Israeli journalists, it was amazing to see bow swiftly we all reached a snap decision - it is quite noticeable how unpleasant the English remain: superior and snobbish, yet tabloid-crude and yohbishly anti-intellectual, all at the same time. And they complain about the French!

Here was a lady foreign journalist trying to decide whether to send her luggage in one taxi while she travels in another. Help for the customer from your frieodly London cabbie? English gentleman? Forget it. "Make up your bloody mind, mate," he snarled. "I 'aven't got all bloody day."

Within the next two hours, we had been insulted by an obnoxious hotel receptionist who had lost two room bookings, and by the sniffy staff of a pretentious restaurant who turned a 10-minute wait for a pre-booked table into two hours. Their condescending Caligulan air suggested it served us right for not apprehending their greatness.

Our conversation while we waited was already laced with fond nostalgia for the Scots, who had enthralled us for a week with their utter charm, humor, culture and elegance.

No wonder all those old jokes are about the Englishman, the Irishman, and the Scotsman. (Poor old Wales - their culture was so suppressed for so long, scarcely even a stereotype survived, except maybe Jones the postman and Dylan the drunk. And Comwall? Lost forever, alas.)

To understand the Brits, you bave to dissect them into their component parts and discover how much the repressed English still skulk behind the kilts of Nanny Celt.

But the kilts have been drawn aside in recent years to reveal to the cameras the devious and unpleasant side of a creaking old English establishment. There are the ridiculous royals - hereditary dinosaurs in a modern world, a

breed of chinless wonders so worried by falling IQ levels that they have been forced to breed with commoners to top up the gene

And the commoners - well, put beggars on horseback and they'll ride to perdition, QED. There were also the exposed pro-Chinese mandarins in the Foreign Office who sold out Hong Kong's rights, like the earlier pro-Arab and Turkish mandarins who trampled on Jewish and Greek Cypriot rights.

Beds and trousers At least nobody elected the commoners, but the people did elect the Commons. That was where, despite the common decency of John Major, the sleaze of royalty future (the Harrods Fayed family) met the sleaze of Commoners about-to-bepast (backhanders to members for asking the right questions at prime minister's question time.) The leaping in and out of various beds and trousers that appeared to be the main exercise in both camps scarcely needs elaboration.

Maybe the British were so tired of the dreary affairs of the elite, they have granted Blair a wholesome honeymoon almost indecently long. But even more star-tling than his 80 percent rating was the finding in one poll that four out of 10 Conservative voters are still satisfied with the outcome of the election.

This is real leadership, this is the real government of the year - one that has rendered more than one Israeli commentator bright green with envy. Blair won, took charge, hit the ground running with polices forged by his experts and approved hy a landslide vote. Overnight, and consistently since, he has replaced the Tory image of slide, corruption, and incompetence with one of a man and a cabinet attuned to the public mood. Tories talk down to people, Blair talks to them. Blair necessities

When he was elected Labor leader in 1994, pundits predicted the rave reviews would fade and curl at the edges, the stratospheric poll figures would deflate and sink. They didn't. Now the pundits are beginning to wonder if this is a honeymoon at all. Maybe at last, in leaders like Bill Clinton, Blair, and Helmut Kohl, we have discovered a breed of politicians who really do know the bare necessities of running a country. (Please, can ve have one?)

Ah yes - those bears at Buckingham palace, are they really a necessity? Blair's Ministry of Defense has ordered a search for synthetic alternatives to the bearskin in the tall hats of the guards, out of concern for the welfare of the Canadian brown bear. Synthetic bearskin! Labor government! Good gad, sir! Next thing you know one of our princesses will run off with some middleaged, Middle East, playboy.

We would honor your presence at the first year memorial gathering for

## Dr. BENJAMIN HALEVI 54

Honorable Justice of the Supreme Court Honorable Member of the Knesset

to be held on August 25, 1997 (כיב באב תשנ"ז) at 5:00 p.m. (17:00) at the Sanhedria Cemetery, Jerusalem.

Widow: Daughter:

Michal Halevi Dr. Hai Halevi and Zahava Ophra and Prof. Geoffrey Spyer

Grandchildren: Yael and Carmel Spyer Shaull, Shachar and Yair Halevi

Great-granddaughter: Adi Haievi

On the fourth anniversary of the death of our dear husband and brother

### ERICH YAKOV HAIM BAUM n'y

we will visit his grave at the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery, Jerusalem, on Monday, August 25, 1997 at 2:30 p.m.

His wife, Dr. Laszlo-Baum

The unveiling of the tombstone of our dear father and grandfather

## JOSEPH SCHNITZER 577

will take place on Sunday, August 24, 1997, at 5:00 p.m., at the Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Beit Shemesh.

> Sharon and Julian Himmelfarb and family Avrumie and Marijo Schnitzer and family

## Police scandal rocks NY

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - New York police, recently basking in the glory of a foiled bomh plot, now are reeling under allegations that rogue cops in Brooklyn tortured a Haitian Immigrant by shoving the wooden handle of a toilet plunger up his rectum.

As the police inquiry expanded yesterday, an instance of alleged abuse surfaced in another Brooklyn precinct. A police officer in 1994 sodomized a 17-year-old hassidic girl in his patrol car while his partner watched, according to radio reports.

And a grand jury was reviewing allegations against an officer in a third Brooklyn precinct. A woman who had been arrested last December on a disorderly conduct charge had been forced to perform oral sex while she was

in custody, according to news accounts.

In response, Mayor Rudy Giuliani, saying he did not want New Yorkers to be afraid of the police, formed a 28-member task force on police and community relations, which was scheduled to hold its first meeting yesterday.

The task force, which has been a \$15 million the attack. Fourteen other officers face some hudget, is to set up a series of meetings between the 38,000 members of the Police Department and New Yorkers.

The task force was created only days after an angry march oo Brooklyn's 70th Precinct by more than 2,000 demonstrators, many waving plungers and Haitian flags.

In a tacit acknowledgement of police racism, Police Commissioner Howard Safir said that be would move more black officers into the precinct, including New York officers who had been sent to the Caribbean to help reform Haiti's abusive police.

The Brooklyn district attorney has charged two officers with aggravated sexual abuse and first-degree assault in the case of Haitian Aboer Louina. Louina's attorney, Carl Thomas, demanded that the charges be upgraded to attempted murder, and Louima, 30, is expected

to file a \$55 million claim against the city. The police inquiry into the Louima assault was also trying to determine whether other officers in the 70th Precinct - which serves a large immigrant community - tried to cover up kind of departmental disciplinary action.

Getting police cooperation had been difficult. When one police officer came forward late last week, Giuliani commended him, but also hinted at the danger police face when they police each other. The informant was not identified

and is under police protection, the mayor said.

The police scandal, tinged with racism as well as brutality, comes only a few months before the mayoral election campaign.

Louima said one of his attackers told him. "This is Giuliani time, not Dinkins ome," a reference to Giuliani's predecessor. David Dinkins, the city's first black mayor.

While New York's crime rates are down. bowever, suggestions of police aggression and ahuse have risen in the last three years. Last year, there were a number of minorities fatally shot by police, including a unarmed navy veteran shot in the back on a Bronx subway platform, a unarmed 15-year-old shot dead in the back of a car, and an unarmed man shot 18 times while sitting in a parked

## charged in US slave scam

By RONALD J. OSTROW

WASHINGTON (LA Times) Twenty people were indicted Wednesday for allegedly smug-gling more than 50 deaf and speech-impaired Mexicans into the United States and making them virtual slaves - at times beating, electrically shocking or otherwise coercing them to sell prinkers to the public.

In carrying out an alleged four-year conspiracy of involuotary servitude, outlined by a federal grand jury in Brooklyn that issued the indictments, some participants stand accused of beating a victim who begged for a day off because of sickness, electroshocking one for low sales and handcuffing an attempted escapee to a bed for more than a week while he attached key chains to trinkets.

"Every case of slavery is terrihle, but this one is especially appalling because of the double exploitation." Isabelle Katz Pinzler, acting assistant attorneygeneral for civil rights, said at a news conference.

Authorities say the ring likely generated more than \$1 million in annual sales from the nationwide trinket business.

"An enterprise that existed for the sole purpose of exploiting the labor of hearing-disabled aliens has been substantially dismantled, and its ringleaders apprehended and held to face serious criminal charges," Zachary W. Carter, US attorney in Brooklyn, said.

In carrying out the conspiracy, recruiters lured deaf Mexicans to come to the United States, falsely promising them prosperous jobs, the 11-count indictment charged. After being smuggled ioto the United States, they were taken to Los Angeles and temporarily harbored at a safe house operated by three of the defendants: Andreas Pfeiffer, Hilario Rivera Pauletti and Carlos Rivera Lozano. Pauletti's son.

The three Los Angeles suspects, like the ringleaders in New York. are themselves deaf and speechimpaired, authorities said.

The man who pulled the trigger

was Janusz Walus, an anti-com-

## TRUTH

VMI welcomes women

Continued from Page 1 Truth does not automatically lead to reconciliation," Friedman said, citing the case of Brian Mitchell, a former police officer granted amnesty for his involvement in the killing of 20 villagers.

Mitchell has pledged to spend three days a week for the rest of

his life doing social work in the victim's community.
"At least we would be on firmer ground... linking amnesty to a process in which a person is saying: 'Look, what I did is wrong

and I want to try to correct it,'

Friedman said. "It becomes easier cal." Parliament decided that full for people to respect the process." disclosure is "a better indication the Hant case tocuses on the

assassination of a key politician as part of an effort to foment a rightwing revolution. It also highlights the dilemma the country faces in trying to put its past behind it, and the tensions that persist as society seeks reconciliation through truth. Remorse is not a prerequisite for

amnesty because the drafters of the statute decided it would be too difficult to judge whether it was genuine.

"How do you test remorse?" said Denzil Potgeiter, a member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, who helped draft the legislation. "It's not really practi-

you take some responsible for what you have done. "I am coovinced... this is the most effective way to deal with

Female Virginia Military Institute rat Erin Claunch gets yelled at by cadets while doing push-ups during rat line training at

the school this week. Claunch is part of a group of 30 females - the first ever - to enroll in the 158-year-old school.

the past and somehow not just walk away from it," Potgeiter said. "That is the kind of reality we are facing." But this reality is sometimes dif-ficult for society to accept, as can

be seen during the hearings in the Hani case, taking place in the audi-torium of Pretoria's old City Hall.

There is scant evidence of reconciliation in the room. On one side sit the killers' supporters, all white, all favoring forgiveness. On the other sits Limpho Hani with her daughters Lindiwe and

Hoots of derision and bursts of applause alternate between the two sides, detracting from the restraint of a legal hearing and contributing to a sense of confrontation.

On the floodlit stage, scated at three white covered tables against a black curtain, are the two killers, the Hani family lawyers opposing the amnesty applications, and the committee members who will decide their fate. They all follow the testimony of how and why Hani was killed four years ago - setting off a wave of violence that left 54

people dead - and why his assassins believe they should now walk free. Clive Derby-Lewis, a smoothtalking politician of the ultra-right Afrikaner Conservative Party, was the master-mind. He supplied the murder weapon, a stolen 9 mm. Z88 pistol with a silencer.

munist Polish immigrant, sallow faced and crop baired, who shot Hani at point blank range on the driveway of his home. Both were sentenced to death for

the murder, but the government of President Nelson Mandela has outlawed the death penalty and the sentences were commuted to life imprisonment. Derby-Lewis - the only one of the pair to testify so far - has expressed sorrow to Limpho Hani,

who sits daily in the front row glowering at her husband's assassins. Her chief attorney, George Bizos, argues against freeing

"I do not expect the Hani family to forgive me," Derby-Lewis said. "There was nothing personal in our attack. If anything, it was an indication of his importance and status."

"I am the last to cry for him," Walus told police after his axest. "He was the leader of the communists in this country and I hated him for that."

Hani was chosen as the victim because he was a high-profile personality regarded as a potential future president.

According to Derby-Lewis, the murder was intended to plunge the country into chaos, allowing the extreme right to seize control from the ruling white National Party of President F.W. de Klerk, who was preparing to hand over control to the black majority led by Mandela.

"We were ready for war," Day-Lewis told the tribunal. "It was patently obvious to me that de Klerk was busy with the betrayal of the Afrikaner people." Derby-Lewis was also driven by

religious servor. Justifying the selection of Hani for assassination, he wrote that his death would strike a blow for almighty God and Christianity against the anti-Christ communism in the form of the leader of the South African Communist Party.\*

But with amnesty in mind, he stressed that while his "duty is to almighty God," the driving moti-vation for the Hani murder was political.

"Derby-Lewis has been well advised by his lawyers," said Friedman. "He is doing what he should be noing in order to comply with the formula [for amnesty], but it creates somewhat different consequences for people who are trying to restore confi-

dence and respect for justice." The hearing is expected to conlines several more days; the conmillee is expected to take several weeks, if not months, to reach its

## We mourn the untimely passing of our friend and colleague

## **ELLEN SCHECHET**

The Management and Staff of The Jerusalem Post

Thirty years have passed since the death of our dearest father and grandfather

#### EPHRAIM CHARLAFF 777 Former Vice-Chairman of Magen David Adom, South Africa

Prime mover of the construction of the Jerusalem MDA station and organizer of blood donations from South Africa during the Six Day War.

A kind and generous man who never turned away a needy person and an inspiration to all who knew him. His memory lives on in his good work.

We miss you.

Son, Joseph Daughter, Shella Granddaughters, Michele, Hadas, Evie.

A memorial service will be held on the 5th yahrzeit of

### Rabbi Prof. ELIEZER BERKOVITS 7121

on Monday, August 25, 1997 (22 Av 5757) at 10:30 a.m. at the Ereiz Hachain Cemelery (RCA area)

The Family

Nomakwezi, surrounded by outraged sympathizers, all black, all demanding retribution.

Nita Schechet grieves for

## ELLEN

The funeral took place yesterday. August 21, 1997. Shiva at 25 Harav Berlin, Jerusalem.

With great sorrow we announce the sudden passing of our beloved father and grandfather

### DAVE STANGE

on August 18, 1997 in Durban, South Africa.

Deeply mourned and sadly missed by Children: Max, Peter and Dorit Grandchildren: Michael, Shelley and Eyal

On the first anniversary of the passing of our beloved

## HANNAH WEINSTEIN 5"

a memorial service will take place on Tuesday, August 26, 1997, at 5 p.m., at the Yarkon Cemetery, Tel Aviv. We shall meet at the graveside (Block 1, Area 8, Row 5, No. 10). Simie Weinsteln and Family



The South African Zionist Federation in Israel and South Africa mourns the passing of

## SIDNEY BERG

Former General Secretary of SAZF, and a distinguished Jewish and Zionist visionary

Bb2. The d5 pawn drives a great

Want to

or re

## Making a pact with the devil?

bout a year ago, Sheikh Hamid Bitawi and several Clerical colleagues asked Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to reopen the offices of the Moslem Brotherhood. closed since Israel took over the West Bank after the Six Day War.

talen ti

E. St. March FWA Francis

> For months, the Palestinian Authority did not reply. Now Arafat is pressing for cooperation with Hamas and Islamic Jihad as part of a "national dialogue," which took place on Wednesday and yesterday, and Bitawi hopes that the PA chief will approve the sheikh's request to revive the Moslem Brotherhood movement.

> The PA has never said yes or no to us," Bitawi says. "But we learned that the great majority of PA officials are opposed to the demand." Arafat might be embracing his

Islamic opposition in public. But privately, both Arafat and his senior advisers are worried that a powerful Hamas will exploit the PA's welcome mat to garner even greater popularity and influence in Gaza and the West Bank. At a time when the PA seems to be doing nothing right, the Hamas alternative stands out as the most genuine hope.

Palestinian analysts, including those in the PA, say Arafat is desperate. The credibility of his rule, and particularly of the Palestinian Police, is at an all-time low. The latest example is the protest in Beit Sahur against police, after

What Arafat wants, Israeli officials say, is a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital and an internationally recognized corridor connecting the West Bank to Gaza. But Arafat is seeing his hopes being dashed. Indeed, the officials say, the closure over the pasi three weeks proved how weak the PA is. Arafat could oot pay salaries; health and education services plummeted and many Palestiolans were left without

Enter Hamas, its schools have been operating on schedule. Its clinics are serving Palestinians everywhere. And its charities are providing loans to the needy.

ARAFAT HAS wavered between embracing the opposition and destroying it. Take Bitawi's request for the renewal of the Moslem Brotherhood movement. After months of silence, two leading PA officials met with members of Bitawi's group in Nablus in June. The officials, according to the account of a senior Palestinian source, tried to convince some of the clerics to break away from the Moslem Brotherhood and estab-

lish their own Islamic movement. The sheikhs were noocommittal. Still, the officials hurried to Arafat and urged him to sign an order that would grant Bitawi's groop a license to a splinter Brotherhood group. Arafat did not

"This kind of dialogue with Hamas happens when there is a crisis, when Arafat does not have an answer, when the PA feels that it needs Hamas's weight."

week while breaking up a demoostration using live ammunition.

Arafat, Palestinian sources say, can't even organize mass anti-Israel demonstrations. Unlike previous crises, Arafat can't depend oo Palestinian refugees around the Arab world. He neglected them when he signed the Declaration of Principles in 1993 with Israel that virtually ignored those Palestinians outside the territories.

This kind of dialogue with Hamas happens when there is a crisis, when Arafat does not have an answer, when the PA feels that it needs Hamas's weight," a Palestinian analyst close to the

leadership says. "When they had the Oslo agreement, Arafat didn't need anything. He had all the backing he needed. Now, the PA feels very weak. Nobody is backing it."

Israeli security officials take a darker view. As they see it, Arafat is in a feisty mood. He is preparing for a confrootation and wants Hamas fighting alongside him.

"He wants to form a onited front," an Israeli security official says. "This way if [US Secretary of State Madeline] Albright comes and he doesn't get what he wants. he won't bave a problem to go to confrontation."

ß.

they wounded several people last sign the request and shelved it ootil further consideration.

The Moslem Brotherhood, however, thought the worst. Sheikh Ibrahim Abu Samhadaneh, chief instice of the Sharia (Moslem) court in Gaza, demanded an urgent meeting with Arafat, He told Arafat that nobody bad ever succeeded in splitting the Brotherhood.

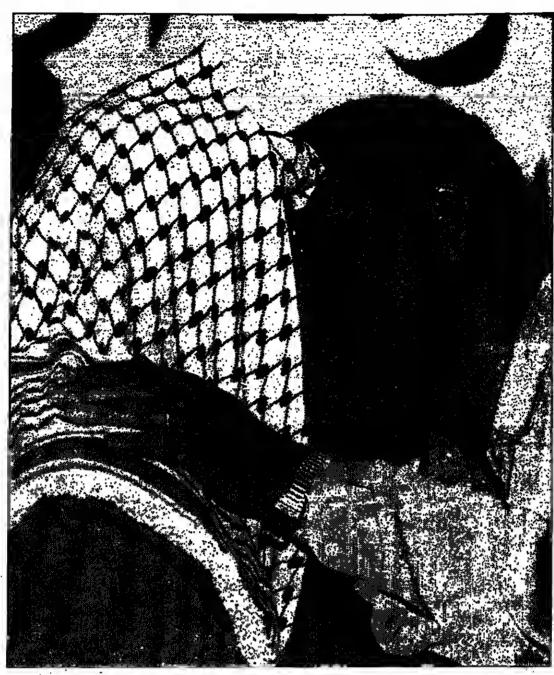
You are playing with fire," the senior Palestinian source quotes Samhadaneh as saying. "You will pay dearly for this."

Samhadaneh resigned from the state-supported Islamic court and moved to Jordan. Arafat was in a panic. He was said to have feared that word of such a resignation would reverberate throughout Gaza and the Arab world. The PA chief contacted Palestine National Council head Salim Za'anoun and told him to speak to Samhadaneh. The sheikh, however, wouldn't

Today, Arafat wants to make his peace with Hamas. He resisted heavy Israeli and US pressure to arrest Hamas militants after the Mahanch Yebuda bombings on July 30. He has approved closer coordination between his Fatah movement and Hamas.

In addition, Arafat met with Hamas leader Moosa Abu Marzook earlier this month and,

By reaching out to his Islamic opposition, the PA chairman is admitting weakness and putting his leadership at risk, Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib report



Reconciliation: Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat embraces his Islamic militant rival, Hamas leader Abdel Aziz Rantisi, during a show of Palestinian unity in Gaza City on Wednesday.

according to Palestinian sources, pressed for genuine cooperation with the Islamic fundamentalist movement. The PA chief has escalated his threats against Israel and says the Palestinians could abandon the peace process with Israel.

ARAFAT, PALESTINIAN analysis say, has changed his mind about Hamas's value. The change is largely due to the return of Abu Marzook to Amman, Abu Marzook, head of the organization's political wing, was deported earlier this year from the US to Jordan and now maintains a low profile. However, he has succeeded in restoring cooperation between Hamas in the territories

and the leadership abroad.

"Mousa Abu Marzook has beeo playing the delicate role of bringing together the dovish leadership in the territories and its hawkish counterpart in Amman, such as spokesman Ibrahim Ghousheh," a Hamas analyst says. "Thanks to Abu Marzook, we don't see the dichotomies anymore."

Abu Marzook has also beeo managing the flow of new fuods to the organization. The main donor has been Saudi Arabia. Hamas offices have opened in Jedda and Rivadh and banks in Europe and Jordan are used to transfer funds

to Gaza and the West Bank. The result is that conservative

estimates place support for Hamas in the territories at 35 percent. But Hamas is playing it cool with the PA. Although the Islamic group is not boycotting the current national dialogue as it did the one in Nablus earlier this year, the sheikhs want to discuss practical steps.

"Our participation in the conference was approved on condition that Arafat discusses the release of Hamas detainees who are still in PA jails directly after the end of the first session of the national dialogue," Hamas leader Abdul Aziz Rantisi says.

The Islamic movement is also demanding that the PA end security cooperation with Israel. That,

Israeli officials say, is indeed taking place, as the exchanges of Intelligence information has become paltry. The low point came in the aftermath of the Mahaneh Yehuda bombings, wheo PA security officials refused to make arrests of suspected Harnas terrorists, refused to release information obtained in interrogations of Hamas militants and gave Israel misleading information meant to convioce the General Security Service that the suicide bombers did not come from the territories.

"Unfortunately, there has been no progress made in the investigation," IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Oded Ben-Ami says.

ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE sources say Arafat is taking bis biggest risk in trying to forge cooperation with Hamas. They say Hamas is growing stronger and any dialogue will legitimize the Islamic movement while pointing to the increasing weakness of Arafat.

Privately, senior aides to Arafat agree and have warned the PA chief of the dangers of Hamas.

A memorandum from PA

Preventive Security chief Mohammed Dahlan to Arafat, first published on June 7 in the Amman newspaper Al Urdun, whose contents were confirmed by Palestinian and Israeli intelligence sources. warned that Hamas is preparing to

"The potential competition, contradiction and conflict between the authority and Hamas-controlled town councils would prove timeand energy-consuming and could distract us from pursuing our national interests," the memorandum reads. "It would be hard to take in [Hamas] and attempt its liquidation without the authority laying itself open to considerable risks on the domestic and foreign fronts."

DAHLAN DOES not oppose a national dialogue. But he warns against allowing Hamas to grow as a result. He also urged that PA and Fatah officials be more restrained in dealing with Hamas.

To check such inclinations. hints must be dropped of the pos-sibility of severe deterrent accon."

The PA security official calls for all candidates in the municipal council elections to be screened and that the campaign be closely monitored to eliminate a campaign against the PA.

A step-by-step media and political campaign must be launched to warn the public against the danger inherent in a replication of the Algerian experience, using televisioo, the press and political supporters, among other means," Dahlan writes. "An effort must be made to warn against bloody violence that the Palestinian society could be plonged into should

"A step-by-step media and political campaign must be launched to warn the public against the danger inherent in a replication of the Aigerian experience."

- Preventative Security chief **Mohammed Dahlan** 

exploit any crisis in the peace process or within the PA and plans to gain control over municipal councils when elections are held. Dahlan's memorandum said

Hamas is using the "Algerian model," in which it is avoiding a showdown with the PA while winning supporters from within Fatah, the PA and the Palestinian

Legislative council. In the event Hamas gains con-

trol over the municipal councils, the public would juxtapose the authority's past performance with the superior services provided by the movement," Dahlan's memorandum reads. "Once in control of municipal councils, Hamas would use the cover of legitimacy to immunize itself against being harassed by the authority's securi-

ty services." Dahlan envisions a scenario in which successfully-run Hamasdominated municipal councils, aided by a massive inflow of funds from Islamic groups abroad, would win Israeli and US support as being a model of democracy. The result would be like that in Algeria, where the international community would relate to the government

and opposition as equals.

Hamas win the vote to run the town councils."

Finally, Dahlan urges that "alteroative and practical optioos, including postponing the vote or amending the law, be considered to avoid elections results harmful to the PA."

Indeed, PA officials acknowledge that despite Arafat's pledges, plans to hold municipal elections have been shelved.

Hamas militants have few illusions about Arafat's invitation for cooperation. They say they are prepared to join the PA in battle against Israel. But they will oot allow Arafat to co-opt key members of the Islamic opposition in what they are convinced is his continued drive to neuter the movement.

"We are making it clear that Hamas is oot like Fatah," a key Hamas operative says, echoing a recent address of Rantisi to his followers. "We are not based on the leadership of one man, even that of [Hamas founder] Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, let alone Mousa Abu Marzook.

We are committed to a principle. We are working with Yassin, not for Yassin. We won't follow Fatah by worshiping people."

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## 'But the terrorists came from abroad'

By BARRY RUBIN

aying that terrorists came from "abroad" has been presented as an excuse for not halting them, as if they were invaders from outer space unstoppable by any human effort.

But the exact opposite is true. When people cross borders into your territory and operate freely there, that is a far worse indictment of either political willpower or security measures than when "local" terrorists strike.

Some years ago, an Egyptian newspaper reported that Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, an Egyptian Islamic radical and notorious advocate of terrorist violence involved in the assassination of president Anwar Sadat, was living in the US. About that time, Israel detained two Palestinian-Americans on ample

rorists bere. Israel warned the US that such groups were active in America and that terrorism might spread

evidence they were carrying money and orders for Hamas ter-

But US authorities failed to discover what a small Egyptian newspaper knew. They were unimpressed with Israel's warnings. A former intelligence official told Time magazine that Israel was just trying to deflect attention from the intifada.

A week later, Abdel-Rahman's followers blew up the World Trade Center.

(Incidentally, two weeks later that same retired American official, the one wbo bad ridiculed the terrorist threat, told Time that he had long warned against the danger of domestic terrorism.)

Was Abdel-Rabman let into the US because of his help in fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan, or did US immigration authorities, as they claimed, simply have no idea of the notorious blind cleric's identity?

The answer isn't clear. But, as

bombs, to work for weeks and months in the same location makes it even more likely that he will become known to police or other authorities.

This, of course, does not mean that Arafat can be expected to have a perfect record or know of a specific plan. But it does show that the PA has become more permissive about allowing an occasional attack - though not too many - believing that such violence gives it leverage against Prime Minister Binyamin

Netanyahu's policy.
At any rate, PA behavior has been far worse in the past few months than during the four pre-

ceding years.
Orders for the Mahaneb Yehuda attack and the terrorists themselves may well bave come from radical leaders abroad backed by Iran and/or Syria. But these operationa were mounted from PA soil; direct counterterrorist responsibility was in the PA's bands. The terrorists were probably in Israeli jurisdiction only during the half-bour or so before the explosions occurred.

THE main danger of the bomb plant in Brooklyn is that what happened may he forgotten too soon, or regarded as a freak, onetime occurrence. At the very least, the strange story of two Palestinian immigrants deciding to blow up New York subways to support Hamas's terror campaign is still another sign of America's extreme vulnerability to terrorism. One thing is sure: Every terrorist group in the world is watching and taking notes for possible future use.

The ease with which these men entered and stayed in the US makes US law and law enforcement appear farcical. If the men were canght only because of the conscience of an Arab-American who discovered their plan by chance - a blow against ethnic stereotyping, but no credit to US

Napoleon's foreign minister security agencies - future attacks When people cross borders into your territory and operate freely there, it is a far worse Indictment of political willpower or security measures than

when 'iocal' terrorists strike

Charles Talleyrand remarked, some things are worse than crimes - they are products of stu-

Two current terrorist cases illustrate this principle. Both instructive, they bave been widely misinterpreted.

In Jerusalem, two Palestinians blew themselves up in the Mahaneb Yehuda market, killing 14 people. In Brooklyn, New York, two recent Palestinian immigrants preparing for an ambitious series of bombings

After the Jerusalem explosions, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat - ecboed by mucb of the Western media - used the claim that the auicide bombers had come from abroad to deny any responsibility for the attack. Several times previously, Hamas had adopted the cynical ploy - no less effective for international public relations - of nsing bombers from villages still under Israeli control; in this way they sought to distance the deed from PA responsibility and themselves from punishment by the PA.

In reality, though, if the Mahaneh Yehuda attackers really did come from another country, that would indicate an even more Understanding why requires only the simplest common sense about

Imagine a would-be suicide terrorist living at home in the West Bank or Gaza. He goes about his normal day-to-day life as he bas done for years, living with his family, going to work or school, maintaining his regular political activities. There are only two abnormal events: when he is informed of his mission, and when he picks up the bomb

already en route to his target. Compare this to the migrant terrorist. He arrives in town, a new face of fresh interest to PA police and intelligence - after all, he might be an Israeli agent, or on a mission to assassinate Arafat. He must have a place to stay, establish new contacts, and be fully instructed on where to go and how to act. Messages must be passed to confirm bis orders and credentials. Surely more people will know about what is

going on. In either case, the terrorist needs a bomb manufactured on PA-controlled territory. The need to involve several people, to obtain and transport substances known to be used in making have good prospects for success. Why haven't more terrorist gronps attacked in the US?

Historically, they felt unfamiliar with that country and overestimated the difficulties. More recently, America bas been too good a safe baven and fund-raising locale to risk losing. Hamas and Islamic Jihad leaders have spent years operating there without problems. Hamas quickly disclaimed any

connection with the Brooklyn plot. Perhaps this is true. That two West Bank Palestinians, one of them a Hamas activist, go to the US, drift around, happen to meet, instantly trust each other, and just bappen to know bow to make bombs seems open to question. Yet stranger things have happened. At any rate, the investigation must find what international connections, if any, do

On two previous occasions, the New York police and US government were too quick to assume that terrorist acts were merely the work of lone, crazed gunmen. Meir Kahane, it turned out later, was assassinated by a man from Abdel-Rahman's group. If this bad been uncovered at the time, the World Trade Center bombing would never have happened, and several more Americans would now be alive.

The same may be true of a Palestinian who shot up the Empire State Building and killed a tourist before shooting himself.

Despite official findings, there is real evidence that the man was trained and belped on thia mission by a terrorist group. If Hamas or others have decided to change tactics toward the US, it would be because they feel the struggle bas escalated and - after Abu Marzook's deportation and other measures - think that America's safe-haven status is

Again, it is not clear that this is the case, but the notion warrants more serious consideration than it seems currently to be receiving in the US.

When terrorists come from abroad it does not defuse the threat. On the contrary, it requires very serious rethinking of political issues and security

The writer is senior resident scholar at the BESA Center for Strategic Studies and editor of the Middle East Review of International Affairs.



Palestinian youths burn an Israeli flag Wednesday during a demonstration in Rafah against the closure.

## The closure: Security boost or ticking bomb?

t's a routine response to nearly every terror attack. A suicide bomber blows himself to smithereens in an Israeli bus, marketplace or cafe, and a closure is clamped on all Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinians resent it because about 100,000 of them are kept from earning livelihoods in Israel. But the Israeli public feels a tad more secure, believing that security forces will have an easier time keeping terrorists away.

Israeli and Arab experts are beginning to question the closure's effectiveness. Observers point out that the closure often doesn't even work since many Palestinians manage to bypass roadblocks, sometimes even under a soldier's gaze.

tronically, the closure may be hitting hardest at the moderate Palestinians, those who passed security muster to obtain work permits. Many tend to obey the IDF and stay home because they would rather avoid risking a run-in with a border policeman and end up having their permit pulled.

Yet the Palestinians who pose a greater threat to Israel - those never issued work permits for security reasons - are the ones who try to infiltrate the roadblocks, in many cases successfully.

Resentment festers among Palestinians with permits who watch as those lacking the documents return home daily with cash in hand. Many workers couldn't even pick up their July paychecks since the Mahaneh Yehuda bombings came on the 30th, a day before

payday.
The black-market workers come to work as usual, but legal workers cannot," said Mohammed Amer. who works for Kav Le'oved (Workers' Hot Line), an Israeli organization devoted to the rights of Palestinian and foreign workers.

Amer said that sometimes a

Three weeks after the Mahaneh Yehuda suicide bombings, Palestinians are still under closure in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Jon Immanuel probes whether the blockade is effective or whether it may be making it more difficult for the IDF and

Palestinian Authority to crack down on terrorism

steady stream of Palestinians can be spotted infiltrating from the Sneineh roadblock.

Sometimes lax enforcement of the closure is burnane, as in the case of a young Palestinian mother who

"Unlike Netanyahu, Rabin used to compensate us for losses during closures."

-Salim Bourdine

recently managed to evade checkpoints between Jenin and Jerusalem to fetch her baby from Makassed

Other times it isn't Tragically. three Jericho residents convicted of murdering taxi driver Shawel Ben-Baruch last week apparently also skirted a roadblock to enter Jerusalem without permits.

Oren Shahor, former government coordinator for the West Bank and Gaza, presided over several closures in the past three years but questions their effectiveness

"From a security standpoint we have to see things in a wider context," Shahor told Israel Radio. Instead of strengthening security, "we are actually achieving the opposite," he said.

Some officials are concerned that the extremists gain an upper hand during closures. They feel the govemment's decision to withhold tax money from the Palestinian Authority and a stepped-up campaign of demolishing illegally built homes, could be fueling resentment and enhancing sympathy with Islamic extremists, instead of helping Israeli security.

David Bar-Illan, director of communications for Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, reasoned that much of the money went to pay Palestinian police officers suspected of involvement in attacks on Israelis. But the PA also needs to pay its police to conduct the crackdown on terrorism that Israel

Brig. Gen. Salim Bourdine, deputy head of the West Bank and Gaza civil police force, noted yesterday that prime minister Yitzhak Rabin used to compensate the PA during closures to show that the measure was for security and not punishment.

"Unlike Netanyahu, Rabin used to compensate us for losses during closures," Bourdine said. He recalled two Israeli payments to the PA of \$15 million and \$20m, made during

This is what PA chairman Yasser Arafat has sought to point out, but his warnings sometimes get lost in the combative rhetoric he spews out

"From a security

standpoint we have to see things in a wider context. Instead of strengthening security, we are actually achieving the opposite."

-Oren Shahor

in speeches, such as a call this week to his people to prepare for a battle, as we swore when we fired the first bullet for Jerusalem."

The statement was loosely translated by most Israeli media as a call to armed struggle, a strategy Arafat

was supposed to have ditched when he made peace with Israel in 1993,

Few Israelis actually understood that Andat's main point was that he wanted to release Israel's stranglehold on PA tax money.

Another potential consequence of the closure is a threatened Palestinian boycott of Israeli products, which could cost the Israeli economy tens of millions of dollars daily in lost revenues, or some \$2 billion a year.

The boycon called this week is reminiscent of the repeated general strikes and attempts at blockading Israeli goods that took place during the intifada. More ominously, it signals another backslide into the pre-Oslo agreement era and more of a rapprochement between the PLO and Hamas. Hamas has called for boycotting Israel since 1991, and at

the time. Fatah opposed the strategy. But Israel's persistent closures after bombings seem to make many Palestinians feel like they're back in intilada times.

Already there are indications that the boycott is being observed.

Today we returned Israeli fruit. appliances, toys, dairy products and frozen meat," Hishani Dasouki, a Palestinian security chief at the Kami crossing point into the Gaza Strip, told the Ramallah-based daily Al-Ayyam Monday.

Palestinian customs officials are also carrying a list of banned Israeli goods. Explaining the boycott, one Palestinian scientist said that the message from Oslo had been economic interdependence between the Palestinians and Israel, and global-

"Now that Israel is changing the game, we must too," said Jad Izhak, a food biologist in Bethlehem, who says he was arrested during the intifada for writing a handbook teaching Palestinians to grow vegetables in window boxes instead of buying from Israel.

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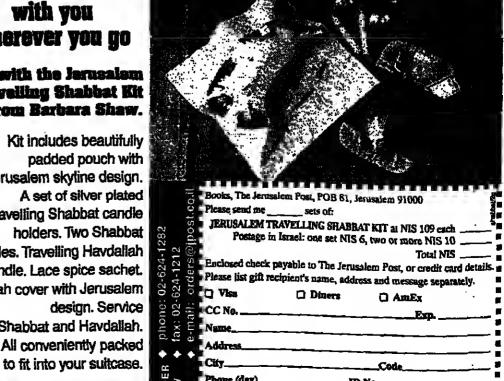


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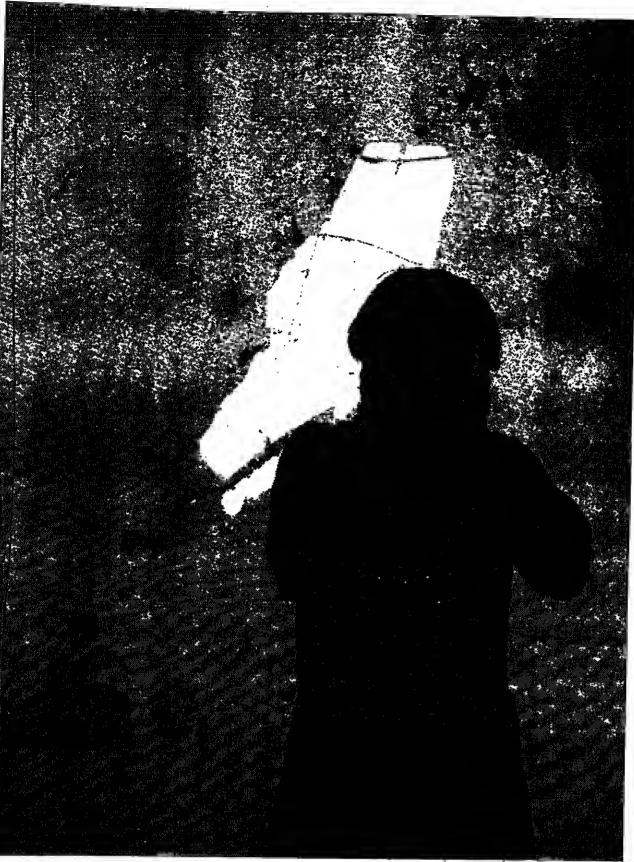
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A resident of Kiryat Shmoon surveys the damainge to her home following Tuesday's barrage of Katyusha rockets fired by the Hizbullah; Lebanese prime minister Rafik Hariri visits a 10-year-old injured in the South Lebanese Army

## The answer is to get out – now

isn't often that Likud MK Bideon Ezra finds himself on he side of MK Yossi Beilin and other "dovish" Labor parlia-

But when it comes to the questior of Israel withdrawing unilateraly from what Beilin calls "the Will North" - Lebanon - Ezra firmly believes that is the course

A former commander of the General Security Services opera-tions in Lebanon, Exra is unfazed by predictions of continued attacks from the North. He notes that there is a difference between [Hi;bullah's] shooting [at IDF solders] inside Lebanon, and shoeting into Israeli territory from Lebanon." The former is more of a tenptation.

Aid he reminds those who fear that Syria will have an interest in harissing Israel as long as there is no peace agreement that "since 1971, Syria hasn't fired a single



Gideon Ezra: 'Once Israel is no longer in Lebanon, Hizbul-lah will have less interest in attacking Israeli territory.' (Yossi Zeliger/LPP.A.)

"I'm all for reaching an agree-

ment with Syria, but we don't bave one now," says Ezra. "I know many people believe that the Syrians will make our lives miserable until there is an agreement. But Syria hasn't done so thus far, and I don't think it will in the future.

There is a difference between Syria supporting Hizbullah in southern Lebanon [now], and the way Syria will behave when we're not there. The Syrians are only in Lebanon because we are," Ezra points out, adding however that a unilateral withdrawal will only be possible if Israel is free to retaliate inside Lebanese territory, in response to

Another necessary condition for withdrawal is adequate arrange-ments for protecting Israeli resi-dents of the oorth and the South Lebanese Army commanders.

"Here the solution would be to give our SLA allies the right to reside in Israel," says Ezra.

Michal Yudelman hears two opposing views on the Lebanon quagmire. MK Gideon Ezra is unfazed by

predictions of continuing attacks if the IDF pulls out, while

Uri Lubrani, the government's coordinator for Lebanon, fears those attacks would only intensify

## Withdrawal is no option

f course we all want to get out of Lebanon, says Uri Lubrani, but a unilateral withdrawal from the security zone is simply oot an option.

"It's all very well to want out, the government coordinator for Lebanese affairs continues. Bot who will guarantee that Hizbullah's attacks will stop? I'm almost certain they will continue, with

even greater intensity.

"Withdrawing unilaterally from
Lebanon would leave us without any binding arrangements [working to end] the attacks, and it would mean abandoning the Lebanese residents in the security zone to the grace of heaven and to all those who wish them ill."

Lubrani has no doubt that the attacks on Israel would continue, almost certainly creating the conditions that would force Israel to invade Lebanon again - this time under far worse conditions, with much larger forces, and facing an actively bostile local population. "The whole messy story would begin all over again," Lubrani

He cites the widely held view that the Syrians are behind Hizbullah, adding, "Hizbullah is no less inspired by Iran – and that's a factor we cannot control." Among those who advocate unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon



Uri Lubrani: 'Of course everyone wants out... but who will guarantee that Hizbullah's attacks will stop?' (Nitzan Shorer)

some, like MK Yossi Beilin, also want Israel to part company with the South Lebanese Army.

"But who will take its place?" Lubrani asks. "Ooly the IDF can. We cannot double the number of our soldiers in the security zone. The public wouldn't stand for it."

What about those who say the security zone should be widened in order to put Israel's northern settlements out of range of the Hizbullah's Katyusha rockets? Lubrani is against it.

"It would mean a significant increase in the Shi ite population under our control, creating an eveo broader front against us," he

One thing is clear to Lubrani: Israel will not be able to get out of Lebanco without Syrian involvement. For him, the only possible interim solution, in the absence of a comprehensive peace treaty, is one that confines itself to security arrangements. And a treaty "may prove highly complex and difficult to achieve - maybe even impossi-

ble," he says.

He sums up: "Our mission is to make every effort to prevent further deterioration, to explore every channel that can lead to solotions, even if they are only interim

In this context, Lubrani emphasizes that Israel continues in its full support of the understandings reached following the Grapes of Wrath operation.

It regards the monitoring group established to deal with complaints by the parties as a very important vehicle for de-escalating and reducing tension.

The group's record so far has been very positive, and Lubrani hopes that, the complexity of the situation notwithstanding, it will continue its good work.

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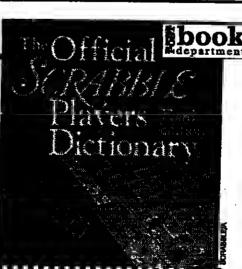
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CENTRAL ISRAEL

## Cultural split in the camp

The rector of Bar-Ilan University has earned fierce condemnation in some quarters and applause in others for his critique of the 'haredization' of nationalreligious education. Allison Kaplan Sommer asked what prompted him to speak out.

rofessor Yehuda Friedlander has no regrets. Even as the poison arrows are being flung in his direction from angry politicians, the rector of Bar-Ilan University says that he staunchly "stands by every word" of his harsh public criticism of what he sees as the "haredization" of national-religious education.

If he is sorry about anything, it is, he says, the fact that he took so long to speak up. Friedlander, 58, a father of five and grandfather of nine, says that he fears not only for the future of Bar-Ilan but for the values of enlightened national-

religious culture that it represents. "I feel the pain of what is going on in religious Zionism today,

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his home in Jerusalem. "If I am part of what is happening, it is because I didn't open my mouth earlier. We gave in for many years to these influences, and now the time has come to speak up."

Hence, the Hebrew literature professor's provocative remarks last week in the Hebrew daily Yediot Aharonot. Friedlander offered a detailed critique of what he saw as increasing corruption and extremism in haredi society and bemoaned their growing influence on the national-religious camp, particularly in the field of education (see box).

The reaction to his comments from haredi leadership has been predictably fierce. Furious over the remarks, Deputy Housing

WHY WOULD a prominent edu-

"But after the Rabin assassination

Minister Meir Porush (United Torah Judaism) has called on the 140 faculty members who make up the Bar-Ilan senate, which elected Friedlander rector, 10 remove him from his position, tagging him an "inciter, a polarizing force, and full of hatred for por-

tions of society." He urged the senate to "make the brave and necessary decision" to reject a man who has "disqualified himself from the profession of

Shas leader Aryen Deri called the Bar-Ilan rector "shameful," and Moshe Gafni (UTI) said that Friedlander "is half Reform and wants to turn Judaism into a mockery."

Even in Friedlander's nationalreligious camp, he was criticized, with Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Yigal Bibi of the National Religious Party pegging him a dweller in an ivory tower "who is out of touch with reality."

cator bring this on himself? Those who know Friedlander say that he has had these opinions "burning inside of him" for a long time and they have been the subject of private conversation and internal debates within the national-religious camp for years. But it is rare for a respected religious public figure to spotlight such views.

'I did it for several reasons," he said. "I am in my second term as rector at Bar-Ilan University, an institution that I and others dream. will be the highest reflection of national-religious culture.

[by Bar-Ilan student Yigal Amir] the secular public at large today identifies the university with the haredim, who will never send their kids here. [Secular Jews] believe it to be part of the fundamentalist haredi camp, when it is really part of the enlightened national religious

What Friedlander said the national-religious camp

has not trained enough edu-

cators and therefore is turn-

ing to haredim to teach in its

schools, and these extremist

forces, contends Prof. Yehuda

Friedlander, are becoming "a

Trojan horse which will destroy us from within," he said in an

interview with the Hebrew daily

Specifically, Friedlander objects

to the increased focus in national-

religious education on extreme

modesty - ranging from of the

dress code for girls from elemen-

tary-school age, measuring their skirts and making sure their legs

are covered with stockings - to

increased separation of the sexes.

He attributes these changes to the

haredi "obsession" and ever-

stricter dictates from their leaders.

with separating the sexes that

soon they'll figure out a way to

put a mehitza between boys and

girls when they are in the womb,"

The haredim are so obsessed

Yediot Aharonot last week.

The relentless focus on intimate personal habits and lifestyles by the haredim, be says, "not only does not contribute to promoting modesty but has become a perversion."

Other effects of religious extremism include more "messianism and mysticism and not the real study of Torah" in national-religious schools, as well as an increased tendency to discourage participation in the life of the state. He bemoaned the fact that schools such as the Horev school in Jerusalem now require young womeo to pledge they will not serve in the IDF before being permitted to study there. He pulled his own childreo out of Horev, he said, after feeling that they were being taught "gimmickry" there.

Friedlander is upset that increasingly, oational-religious schools employ teachers who do not send their own children to the army - or to the very schools they teach in - preferring to edu-

haredi institutions. He fears that the products of this type of education and these teachers are soon going to be incapable of the kind of critical thinking necessary for higher learning at universities like Bar-Ilan.

He reserved his harshest words for the intellectual level of students at haredi yeshivot.

In the Diaspora, he said, since the Jewish community had to support itself, only the true geniuses studied Torah full time as adults. Today, he reports, yeshiva heads in Israel tell him, We'll take anyone, even a dunce, anything to keep them out of the clutches of the IDF."

As a result, Friedlander said, the level of studies has greatly declined. A new phenomenon has been created in Judaism — the eternal yeshiva student. It used to be that men studied in yeshiva until their wedding, and the moment someone got married

and began raising a family, it was necessary to support that family, "And who allows things to operate as they do now? The gov-

OLEG 6597

Friday, August 22, 1997 The Jerusalem Post

ernment treasury, funding the veshivot, at a budget higher than those which finance institutions of higher learning. And so the yeshivot have become a refuse for do-nothings," The haredim, he said, are becoming "corrupted" by govern-

ment money and, with increasingly fancy weddings and bar mitzvas, are "getting as material istic as anyone else. He also spoke out in favor o

"live and let live" pluralism toward those who are no Onthodox - including the creation of an area at the Western Wall where men and women may pray together, and the inclusion of women and non-Orthodox on religious councils; In addition, he called the proposed conversion law "a disaster,

camp.... So I decided to talk to the secular public using the press and tell them that the politicians, and those fighting for their financial interests, do not reflect the majority of observant Jews.

**FEATURES** 

"Also as someone inside the

Some 50 fragments of medieval manuscripts

are now at the Israel Museum. Sounds dull?

Well, they form one of the most exciting and

moving exhibitions I have ever seen.

the growing polarization in our society over religioo and see that we are getting closer and closer to a civil war....

"Another event that spurred me to speak out was the violence by haredim against the Conservatives national-religious camp, I watch at the Wall, and the verbal violence in the debate over the makeup of the religious councils. I felt that if I remain silent, I am somehow abetting that violence."

Despite the expected condemnation from politicians, Friedlander says he is pleased with the "faxes. telephone calls, personal visits from rabbis, public figures close to politics, and intellectuals within the seccamps. With only a few exceptions, they were warm and encouraging."

Several faculty members at Bar-Ilan applauded Friedlander. Dr. Yehudit Auerbach, head of the division of journalism and communication studies at Bar-llan, praised the rector's decision to

take a public stand. "L too, believe the time has come for the national-religious camp to speak out and make a distinction between their community and a haredi community that doesn't participate in the life of the state," she said. "In the secular public at large, the lines are getting blurred, and we have all sim-

as to who is permitted to enterits portals. Or Bar-llan leaders on speak up and say: This trend is intolerable as far as we are concemed, and we have to oppose i

see it become a closed institution

not open to freedom of thought and

religion - and increasingly careful

The choice of most institutional leaders would be to waffle on his that Professor Friedlander chise not to waffle," said Liebman.

HANGING over the controvers of Friedlander's remarks is the speter of Yitzhak Rabin's assassin.

"A man from the institution hat produced Yigal Amir should remain silent," said Gafni.

Responded Friedlander, "I onlend that the stain of Yigal Amr is a temporary stain. An intellectal knows that a university is for rajonal thinking, and anyone who isnot critical minded has no place in miversity — Yigal Amir was such a person ... Yigal Amir fell victin to a dangerous education before com-

## The Jerusalem Post THE CAIRO GENIZA SEMINAR

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Shas leader Aryeh Deri called Friedlander 'shameful.' Moshe Gafni (UTJ) sald he 'is half Reform and wants to turn Judaisn into a mockery.

ply become 'those religious' who want to control their lives and take

"I don't want to be in the same category as those who create violence at the Wall, who don't send their sons to the army as I have. I'm glad someone of Professor Friedlander's stature has made that clear."

Prof. Charles Liebman, whose work in the Bar-Ilan political science department focuses on religion and politics, said that Friedlander's remarks reflect a split that is deepening within the national-religious camp between those who find the move toward an increasingly strict, haredi-style life desirable, and those who want to remain an active part of the larger society.

"It is important to see his remarks not as anti-haredi, but as opposing a tendency within religious Zionism to become haredi. I think what really upsets Professor Friedlander is that the lines are becoming indistinguishable, and I would certainly agree with him in that regard.

"It is very appropriate for someone from Bar-Ilan University to speak what is on his mind and on the minds of other people - it may not be wise for him politically, but it is to his credit that he didn't take that into account," Liebman said.

"I know there are others at Bar-Ilan who would disagree with me and with Professor Friedlander. If the current atmosphere of haredization in the religious Zionist community continues, an institution like

Bar-Ilan cannot function freely. "As I see it, Bar-Ilan has one of two options. It can cave in and become part of this process - and I are sure there are people at Bar-Ilan who would like that to happen, to ing to Bar-Ilan: he was infetted with mystic messianic thrugs that created a virus. I want to cleans the body of Bar-llan of this vies." Hence, Friedlander said le is working to fight for "the creation

of a proper atmosphere" inside the

university. We are developing special courses to try to teach the students not simply to listen, be passive, andtake notes but to challenge - we want more workshops, more seminars. When screening candidates for study, we need to explain to hem what a university is, the character of the institution: that it is not a community center, it is not a shriebe or a shtetl... a university is not a yeshiva. and anyone who does not undertand that should not come to study lere." Friedlander's immediate superi-

or, the university president, was ahroad when the interview was published and did not voice an opinion on the controversy But faculty members at Bar-Ilan scoff at the idea that demands such as Porush's for Friedlander's dismissal will be taken seriously by the university senate.

Dr. Shmuel Sander, a political science professor at Bar-Ilan prediets the haredi attacks will, if anything, hoomerang into

increased support for Friedlander. "Professor Friedlander is already extremely well liked and one of the personalities most closely identified with Bar-Ilan University," Sander said. Porush's comment was meaningless. Bar-llan University never had any legitimacy in the eyes of the haredim anyway they have no right to intervene in the life of an institution they have never

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t's that time of year agaio. Katyushas are wbistling above Kiryat Shmooa, Galileans take shelter under their homes, and politicians both local and national - are out to scaveoge the spoils of war.

And so, Ma'alot mayor Shlomo Buhhut calls on all settlemeots along the northern border to lauoch a protest strike; Kiryat Sbmooa mayor Prosper. Azran boycotts an "emergency meeting," called by Foreign Minister David Levy, with "coo-frootatioo lice" settlements; Levy, for his part, uses the highly visible and noncommittal circumstances to "call on the government" - i.e., oo himself - to reverse its year-old decision to slash capital-investment aid; Defeose Minister Yitzhak Mordechai promises the oortherners to raise the issue of their plight in the Cahioet; lofrastructure Minister Ariel Sharoo sbows op south of Metulla, where he promises to huild a new neighborhood and

Northern exposure prospective dwellers; and loterior Minister Eli Suissa

emerges io Nahariya "in the wake of the hostilities," while local officials say the visit had beeo planoed ahead of this week's events.

assomptions of these usual suspects - namely, that the North's ts a riskier life, that more taxpayer money would alleviate its plight, and that crying gevalt against the backdrop of a roofless bouse would open middle-Israel's pockets - are unfound-

The first fallacy, namely that border-side life is more dangeroos, originates in the 1950s when fedayin terrorists routinely raided the frontier - and ends in the recent years' recurrect explosions anywhere between an Afula hus stop and a Tel Aviv coffee shop.

Whether foolishly or cunningly, Azran and Buhbut er ol. fail to meotion that in this decade, scores upoo scores of Israelis were killed, maimed and bereaved near places as "safe" as the Ramai Gan diamond exchange and the Hadera bus statioo.

It may he very unpleasant to raise this question, hot one must wonder what was, at the same time, the Katyushas' toll? Why sboold the lesser meoace to civilian life up oorth be treated with greater alarm - oot to men- omy's beartbeat. Not only would

poteot threat to bus riders, mar-ket sboppers and restaurant

patrons elsewhere? Still, these scathing facts have yet to disrupt the ebb and flow of the roughly semi-annual ritual wherehy northern politicians Yet alas, all the underlying groan, cabinet ministers moan, and the middle class is asked to foot the bills of additional budgets for yet more ill-conceived ecocomics.

> Arch-populist David Levy's suggestion, to hand out slate fuods to northern factories, has time and again proved itself ill advised. As noted hy the state comptroller io her last annual report, the johs and exports which such lavishly aided eoterprises initially generate ultimately tend to peter out.

Sbaron's and Mordechai's attitudes - a state-sponsored neighborhood here, an expanded sbel-ter-upgrade budget there - are more of the same as Levy's. None of these would bring solace to the North, wbose predicament - like the South's is not safety but solitude.

INDEED, DURING its first half ceotury, Israel bas defined the term "frontier" - sfar - accordiog to its proximity to the ecemy. It's time we redefined it aloog the lines that other major immigratioo coootries bave, oamely according to a region's distance from the oadonal econbeyond the Katyusha-targeted Kiryat Sbmona-Nahariya range to the unhomharded, hut equally destitute. Yeroham-Kiryat Gat sphere, hut the real difference would be in the policy goals which that changed outlook would dictate.

Remoteness is oot a divine predestination, whether for a region or for its inhabitaots. Historian Frederick Jackson Turner earned his fame when he published - in 1896 - his thesis in which be argued that America's formative period had ended, since according to statistical deficitions, the US no longer had a "fronter."

In fact, the American frontier was conquered and shaped by pioneers who enjoyed minimal if any - state aid; all they needed was a railway and freedom. We too doo't need more than

Any place in Israel can be economically, and therefore also socially, linked to the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem-Haifa triaogle. If Kiryat Shmona had a fast train to Haifa, it would have developed with that port city's elahorate industrial base the same kind of commuter relationship which, say, Philadelphia and Baltimore have; the distance between each of these pairs is similar.

Tragically, the dwellers of Israel's border towns are often either recently arrived immilavish \$80,000 subsidies oo its tion panic - than the far more such a redeficitioo lead us grants or desceedants of immi-

grants who were involootarily dumped there in the 1950s hy short-sighted governments who failed to understand the power of private enterprise.

Since then, both local dwellers and distant officials have been perceiving the Israeli frootier as a punishment zone, where a collective beggar-status is a foregone attribute. In such a setoog, waiting passively for someone else to come and solve one's problems - whether in setting up a business or in maintaining a homb shelter - is naturally prone to become tradition, hahit and rule. Now, what the assorted

Azrans, Sharons, Buhhuts, Levys and Mordechais are proposing is to perpetuate the North's retardation by thrusting on ao already heavily taxed middle class the additional burdeo of funding patently ineffective programs which would osteosibly push people to the periphery and create for them artificial employment.

To be truly reiovented, the periphery must be plucked from the claws of the lavishly salaried, professional miskenim who currently lead its politics, and be placed, instead, in the hands of Israel's self-confident, enterprising middle classes.

For them, the frontier would not be a subject of self-pity. despair and disenchantment but an object of reclamation, vision

## **Dry Bones**







### SHABBAT SHALOM



All the commandment which live and multiply,' (Deut. 8:1)

distance of a syoagogue. What are we to make of these different approaches?

The above verse from this week's portion Ekev provides us with some insight. After all, says the holy Ohr Hahaim (Rahhi Haim ibn Attar, 1696-1743), this verse cannot merely be a repeat of the portioo's opening admonioon, wherein the Israelites are told to "hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, then the Lord your God shall

What this signifies, he suggests, is that every single commandment is intimately connected to the rest. The Torah is not a

From this perspective, the verse is saying that ooce we overlook certain commandments, we are leaving ourselves exposed to spiritual viruses which may prove lethal to our souls.

However, this interlocking theocrite!

that hypocrisy does not apply to an individual who keeps some rules hut not all of them all of the

multitude mitzvot

#### By SHILOMO RISKIN

1'd like to suggest two interpretations which, at first glance, seem to be totally contradictory. First, the Ohr Hahayim explains that the verse teaches an important concept regarding the ohservance of commandments. "All the commandment" (kol hamitzva) appears io the singular form, while the rest of the verse "shall you observe them to do, that you may live and muloply" is in the plural (iishmarun la'asot

ory can lead an individual to conclude that Judaism is an "all-ornothing" proposition - if one cannot observe every detail of the Sahhath laws or cannot keep them for the full 25 hours, then one might as well throw in the towel regarding kosher food and sexual morality as well. After all, it would be wroog to be a hyp-

time; such a person is merely

being incoosistect, and -- as

Matthew Arnold observed - the

only truly coosistent persoo is

one who is dead. Only if one

#### Parshat Ekev

command you this day shall you observe to do, that you may

Wheo I was the rabbi at Liocoln Square Syny agogue in New York, the "612 Club" was a sarcastic reference to individuals who professed to keep all 613 commandmeots - except for the one pertaining to sexual morality! In the modern world, we often find a split between those who "major" in ritual law but cut corners in ethics, and those who wouldn't dream of taking an unjustified dime from a customer bot would oever be caught within shouting

keep with you the coveoant."

lema'an tihyun v'rivitem).

"meou of options."

Further evidence for this idea is demonstrated by the fact that the Sages divide the 613 commandmeots into 248 positive (correspooding to the 248 bodily organs) and 365 negative (corresponding to the 365 hodily sinews). After all, a wise individual uoderstands that be must take care of his eotire organism if he desires physical well-being. So, too, does it border on spiritual blindness to dramatize one mitzva while ignoring another.

Let it be clearly understood

claims to be 100% when one is not, is one a bypocrite. And would any logical todividual claim that if someone is guilty of an occasional white lie, he should forget about truth and morality in all his interpersonal relatiooships? Much the opposite: He should strive for greater coosistency io his actioos.

And perhaps this is the real meaniog of the singular form with which our verse opens: "All the commandment shall you observe to do" - if you can't keep all the commands, at least keep one! I know a family in Efrat, completely devoted to the Torah, who

started out in a small town in midwestern America. Wheo I marveled at how a family from such a non-Jewish eovironment could have growo up with such Jewish commitment, I was told the even stranger fact that their father, who had studied in a Polish yeshiva, had been forced to work on Shahbat in order to keep his job io the Midwest (not an uncommon situation in the early 1900s). Nevertheless, the family atteoded synagogue on Friday eveniog and enjoyed a festive meal with kiddush. zmirot, and Torah interpretations.

On Saturday morning their father would get up at sunrise and pray alone and then, before leaving for work, would kiss his family with tears streaming down his cheeks, blessing them with the wish that they would never have to desecrate the boly Shabbat. Upon his return, be would share the third Sahhath meal with them and, as a family, they would chant the havdala prayer at the conclusion of the

Of course, we could judge the father barshly and cry out that he was a bypocrite. And indeed, he bad many counterparts all over America who, because they felt forced to work on the Sabbath, allowed almost every other traditional Jewish observance to lapse - no Friday night, no festivals, oo succa, no etrog, oo family purity. Is there a way to reconcile the "all-or-oothing" approach with the philosophy that "every little hit counts"?

It seems to me that wheo it comes to one's own behavior, a persoo should recognize that our tradition is a traditional-historical continuum which has enabled us to live and develop - despite exile, persecution and pogroms for over 4,000 years. After all who can say which aspect of this tradition was most responsible for our remarkable continuity?

But at the same time, when it comes to judging other people's observance, we must understand the value of each commandment independently. And who knows? Perhaps the real meaning of the verse is that one must not only multiply one's progeny but multiply one's observances.

Shabbat Shalom

A VIEW FROM NOV

#### By MOSHE KOIM

ttitudes increase with use. The A more you "spend" of an attitude, the more you have of it to speod; the more you give of the love or the bate to you, the loving-kindness or meanness, the charity or selfishness, the understanding or oarrow-mindedness, the truth or deceit in you, the more you bave of it to

This thought was brought to mind hy Jerusalem that we stop harping so much on the talmudic teaching that the destruction of the Secood Temple and Jerusalem hy the Romans in 70 CE was brought about by sinat hinam/unfounded hatred that is, that the Jews were at each other's throats for no good reason, behavior that some of us are repeating today.

We dwell on that so much, especially at Tisha Be'av time, Lerner observes, that what sticks in our frail, hurdened minds

is the sina/hatred part. One might add: Ask people who have a pet hate whether their hate is hinam/unfouoded. Of course not! It is your hate that is hinam; mine is absolute-

A good example of this are the respooses of the various protagonists io the melee in the Western Wall compound on Tisha Be'av Eve involving a group of mainly Conservative Jews, the police, and a group of people identified as hared-

The police and the haredim accused the Conservatives of provocation in coming to that particular area to hold an "egalitarian" service led by women and in

My hates, your hates which men and womeo commingled, The

with the service hy their catcalls and booing.
The excuse the police gave for expelling the Conservatives from the area was a lame and absurd ooe. The "explanation" of Jerusalem district police chief, Cmdr. Ya'ir Yitzhaki, suggested that the police consider themselves clairvoyant and prescient "There were thousands of worshipers present, and it looked as though[!] their feelings were offeoded." He also "said the police foresaw the pos-sibility that the Conservative group would get hurt, and the inevitable conclusion was to expel them to eosure their safety" (The Jerusolem Post, August 13,

Conservatives, in turn, accused the

haredim of provocation in interfering

page 4, and August 12, froot page)." As Conservative spokespersoos themthe suggestion of my friend Joe Lerner of selves attested, there was on physical violence or threat of any hy the baredi hecklers. Hence, there were no grounds for the police to "foresee" it and, as a result, perpetrate it, and do so in an

impetuous, violent manner. But oeither is the Cooservative groop innoceot of provocation. It is oo doubt true, as several of the movement's spokespersons poiot out, that over the years Cooservative groups bave held mixed services at the rear of the Western Wall compound, or in the outer area, more than 100 times unopposed. Indeed, many Orthodox groups, too, have done so over the years, as they used to on the crowded roof of "King David's Tomb" on Mount Zioo betweeo 1948 and 1967, wheo the Jordanian occupiers, in violatioo of the armistice agreement, denied Jews access to the Jewish holy places in

eastern Jerusalem. It is prohably also true, however, that previously the Cooservative groups, and certainly the others, did oot do so demoostratively, provocatively, as the former did this past Tisha Be'av Eve. How else would you describe the former's prior annooocement in the press, which,

among other things, ensured that the among members of the Conservotive news media would be well represented at movement's Masorti Internet Discussion the happening?

How else would you describe the assertioo by the Israel director of the movemeot's Uoited Synagogue, Rabbi Jim Lebeau, about the demonstrative oature of the happeniog? In a comment containlog inner contradictioos Lebeau wrote: "The decisioo to spoosor an organized service was not made as a provocatioo. Our leaders felt the oeed to demonstrate our presence in Israel and our right to

worship..." How is something done out of "a need to demoostrate" oot a provocatioo?

Lebeau's Reform counterpart, Rabbi David Forman, director of Israel Programs of the Union of American Hebrew Coogregation and spokespersoo of the Israeli Rabbis for Human Rights group and certaioly oot of our Orthodox establishmeot, called it "the height of hutzpa to pick Tisha Be'av Eve, wheo the Western Wall Plaza would be packed, to bold a demoostration" (The Jerusolem Post, August 13).

Rabbi Lebeau believes that "Israel needs Conservative Judaism. The best way to demonstrate the accu-

racy of that assessment is for the movemeot to cooduct activities of such a creaove and spiritually and iotellectually fulfilliog nature that will draw masses of

Heoce this is also the way for the movemeot to gain power bere, augmented hy implementation of Lebeau's declaration that "We must hriog more and more Conservative Jews to Israel."

The same applies to our Orthodox. They will not win ascendancy over the lewish world through restrictive laws, police force, and imprecations. They will have a chance to prevail by being a beautiful embodimeot of Torah, and hy masses of them coming home to Israel from

the Diaspora. (Thonks to Douglos Greener of Jerusalem for the text of o discussion Please include home address.

JERUSALEM POLICE chief Yitzbaki's clairvoyance and prescience resemble those of some journalists who give us ussubstantiated "ioside" accounts of what "the people" feel or think.

For example, Newsweek writer Joseph Cootreras receotly presumed to enter the minds and souls of the Arahs in general and of Yasser Arafat and his Palestinians in particular. He told his readers about Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's alleged indifference to "Arab concerns

about dignity, bonor and face-saving" and his "politics of humiliation." According to Contreras and his apparently approving editors, "It is Netanyahu's style and tone, as much as his policies, that have poisoned Israel's relatioos with the Palestiniaos and the

Arab world at large.' No! The poisoo in those relatioos is the product of the Arafatians' flagrant reluctance, except under pressure, to fulfill

writteo undertakings. This is not to mentioo the refusal of most Arab-Moslem, Palesoniao-Christian and Palestinian-secular leaders and spokespersoos to accept the Jewish people, in general, and Israel, in particular, as entitled to sovereignty, and the refusal of some Arab leaders to go beyond the oarrow literalness of their written uoder-

And the way for the Arafatians to avoid alleged humiliation at being called to task for their gross violations of the Oslo Accords is hy starting to religiously fulfill their undertakings. Doiog so will also do wonders for their dignity, honor and

(Thonks to Jashua Cypess of New York ond my colleague Eli Groner for the Contreros quototion.)

E-mail comments to moshe@jpost.co.il.

illed Friedland UTJ said he " a turn Judaisha

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Kiryat Yam Mayor Shmuel Siso, the newly

appointed consul-general in New York, rejects

ost New York Jews would have a hard time Kiryat Yam on a map of Israel, admits Shmuel Siso, mayor of the coastal town located between Haifa and Acre. But that, he says, is no reason not to appoint him Israel's consul-general in the Big Apple.

The High Court of Justice dismissed an appeal yesterday by the Movement for Quality Government that sought to bar Siso from the post.

This is a purely political appointment of a person who lacks the relevant qualifications for one of the most important and sensitive diplomatic positions," the movement said, in its peution.

Siso was nominated for the post by Foreign Minister David Levy in March, but the appointment was approved only earlier this month. He has spent recent months deflecting criticism that he does not know enough English and is not sufficiently familiar with the ways of US Jewry to serve in New York.

'GO AHEAD and interview me in English. That way you can prove for yourself that I know it," he

His English is accented but certainly no worse than many other non-native speakers working in the diplomatic corps or in politics. "Let's just say that you don't graduate from the Hebrew University's Law School without knowing some English," be says, "But people tend to ignore the fact that I am actually a qualified

claims he lacks the necessary skills for the job, Liat Collins reports As he opens up he also admits to having learned some English dur-

ing the six months he spent in the US in the early 1970s. "It was the end of the flowerpower period and I traveled from coast-to-coast. I had a Jewish

"Let's just say that you don't graduate from the Hebrew University's Law

School without knowing some English,' Siso says, but people tend to ignore the fact that i am actually a

qualified lawyer." American girlfriend," he notes, adding, "Should you write that?"

In the end, however, most of the

interview was conducted in

THE QUESTION of Siso's

been "insulting as well as hurtful" - was first publicly raised in March by New York Jewish Week editor and publisher Gary Rosenblatt.

"Is it too much to ask for Israeli representatives here who can speak fluent English and whose credentials extend further than a political friendship with [Foreign Minister] David Levy?" Minister] David Levy?" Rosenblatt asked of the choice to replace Colette Avital.

Several journalists seemed to have forgotten the basic ethics and didn't ask me directly if I know English or not," says Siso, 46. Many also forget to mention I have an academic degree, ran my own successful law practice, and was reelected to a second term as mayor by a huge majority [81%]." Though a member of the Likud.

he had run backed by a joint Labor-Likud list. "That also shows something about me," he

ROSENBLATT'S COLUMN. titled: "Missing Colette Already." suggested the choice of Moroccan-horn Siso for the New York position might indicate that Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is paying only lip ser-English - which he admits has

vice to his professed interest in improving relations with US and Diaspora Jewry.

Some felt the column implied that US Jewry does not feel a Sephardi can represent Israel abroad as well as an Ashkenazi.

Last year, he was the guest of the US State Department. participating in a program for promising leaders which he says is one of the reasons

Romanian-born Avital has been feted in a series of farewell tributes, which ignored the bitterness she evoked among those opposed to the Oslo Accords.

he was offered the

consular position.

"I suspect the source of the problem is a combination of factors," he says. "I think it has something to do with coming from a periphery town few have heard of

GRAPEVINE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

He is reluctant to say that erusalemites Alan and Bonnie Sephardi-Ashkenazi tensions play Cohen, formerly of Los a role but admits: "Many people Angeles, are famous in many parts of the world for their incred-Siso jokes that, like many antiible hospitality. The Cohens have semites claim they have Jewish at least a dozen strangers at their friends, he can claim to have an Sabbath table every week and Ashkenazi wife, Naomi, born in often entertain as many as 30 or 40 Argentina to Russian-born parpeople. Two Saturdays ago they "I don't know how you would define my children," quips the father of four, "It's a pity this issue bosted WUJS student Greg Sandler from New Jersey without being aware of his presence. Only is raised - deliberately or unintenthis week - when he sent them an tionally - after 50 years of the state. I prefer to think that this is e-mail thank-you - did they learn that Sandler had been in their not the reason and it is simply house. Participants in Sandler's program were walking around the Old City walls overlooking the ignorance and a combination of other things which happen to have

Cohens' home when their guide fallen on me. He suggests, by implication, that mentioned that the part of it is the struggle between couple Levy and Netanyahu over the love having tourists political appointments abroad. come by to intro-duce themselves. Perhaps some people are trying to settle scores at my expense." So Sandler and a friend dropped in SISO ARRIVED here at age six Saturday afternoon when the Cohens were napping. They

"in the period of transit camps. I sindied here [at Jerusalem's Boyar School] and began helping with immigrant absorption. I think that is the essence of Israel - the People of Israel in the Land of Israel." Siso served in the Engineering Corps, and is a reserve captain in the IDF.

to such a desirable position."

do say that."

He started his political career as a local councillor in Kiryat Yam in 1978, and met David Levy the first time he ran for mayor in 1983. Although he did not get elected, the relationship with Levy continued, based on their mutual interest in social issues. Siso was eventually elected mayor in 1989 and started his second term in

Siso was still happier talking about local affairs than international issues before the court case had passed, but he notes he is aware his appointment comes at a low point in relations between Israel and US Jewry caused by the preliminary passage of the conver-

"I can only pray - use the word 'pray' not 'hope," he says in English - "that the matter will be resolved by some sort of compromise, because otherwise I predict a serious crisis with US Jewry." He has met with leaders of non-Orthodox communities both in

Israel and from the US. "I'm aware of the problems, I think this is the most serious crisis we have had with a Jewish community outside of Israel and I hope we can solve it without causing an

unnecessary rift." Siso describes himself as "traditional" and says he is enided by a "live and let live" philosophy. Kiryat Yam, be says, has 40 synagogues but does not close streets on Shabbat - "and the beach is also open." He sums up his approach by quoting that the paths of me Torah are the paths of

ABSORPTION OF immigrants has caused Kiryat Yam's populatioo to jump from 30,000 to nearly 50,000 in recent years. "We have taken in immigrants from all over - Russia and Ethiopia; the US and

South Africa," he says.
Siso is justifiably proud of the town's achievements in absorption and growth.

"It's not New York, but it has a role in absorbing immigrants here which is important," he says. "And New York is the higgest city in the world absorbing immi-

His town has won awards for significantly raising the percentage of pupils matriculating and for improving the environment. He has been successful at raising funds for public projects and is particularly proud of the town's music and arts conservatory, the technological incubator and the technological college established

alongside the high school.

As consul he feels he will still play a role in encouraging and faciltating aliya. "Every Jew says: Next year in Jerusalem!" he notes. One focus will be the Israeli emigrant community. "It's an issue which must be handled."

THE CONSUL-GENERAL in New York handles a wide range of duties. The job includes liaising with the local organized Jewish community and the emigrants, involvement in local Jewish cultural life, working with the press, forging business ties and encouraging investments. It also includes building ties with the local Hispanic and black communities.

In 1992, the Foreign Ministry sent Siso on a lecture tour of the US, where he met with leaders of the Jewish community, administration officials and newspaper editors to talk about the loan guarantees and immigration and absorption. Last year, he was the guest of the US State Department, participating in a program for promising leaders - which he says is one of the reasons

he was offered the consular position. "I think it was natural my name should come up after the relevant person here saw how I behaved and heard the lectures I gave," he says.

See SISO, Page 18

media world would be prepared to honor that appeal, there are strong doubts that the request was sincere. Pointing to the extensive print media coverage of the Netanyahu family vacation and bearing in mind how closely surrounded the family is by security guards. Israel Broadcasting Authority Director-General Moti Kirschenbaum queries how the photographers could have obtained some of those intimate shots without being invited into

WHEN over 100 friends of Yechezkel and Batsheva Mink showed up at the Sheraton Plaza hotel to celebrate his 70th birthday. they didn't expect to come away

the Netanyahu compound.

occasion was also a launch party for Yechezkel Mink's autobiography, How a Jewish Scrapman Recycled His Life. Guests were each presented with the book, published by Gefen Press. It tells the story of Mink's successful career as

an enjoyable time knot

SINGER Yermi Kaplan managed to sandwich his marriage to Ravital Bar-Oz in between singing engagements. Hopefully,

signed off his thank-you note with

"Maybe we'll catch you awake

his voice is in better shape than his foot, which failed at the first attempt to break the glass under the bridal canopy. One of the perks of having a wedding in which guestlist is top heavy with stars from the entertainment industry is that

were received by a

family friend visit-

ing from L.A., with

chatting. Sandler

next time."

some of them get up and perform gratis. Amongst the entertainers present at the Amazones

Kaplan-Bar-Oz unioo were Aviv Gefen, Ahinoam Nini, Assaf Amdurski and Rami Kleinstein.

ENTERTAINERS also came in large numbers to the Tuxedo Hall in Tel Aviv to bestow good wishes on comedians Moti Giladi and she a divorcee, who tied the knot on Tu Be'av. To prove his stantina. Giladi, 50, defily lifted his 35year-old-bride in his arms in an over-the-threshold gesture. Apart from the fact that they're obviously very much in love, they make each other laugh a lot.

NOT SO long ago, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu appealed to the media to desist from intruding on the privacy of his children. While many in the with a gift. But the

whom they spent Yermi Kaplan: tying the a scrap merchant in New York and his inability to replicate that success here, when he and his

wife, currently head gardener in the Botanical Gardens at the Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus, came on aliya 21 years ago. Mink set up the Israel Recycling Company, which folded after three years. He then spent a two-year stint in Yamit, which is no longer on the

map, then worked briefly for Bank Leumi, after which he decided to devote himself to volunteer activities by establishing the Old City Free Loan Association. Some of its contributors were on hand to celcbrate both his hirthday and his book.

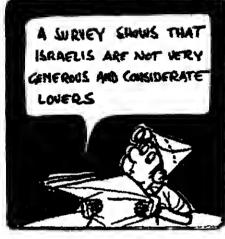
Guests from abroad included New York Cour Suprense Stanley Judge Club at the port of Anthony Quinn: Zorba Gartenstein and Tel Aviv for the the... wife beater? (U.P.P.A.) politician Peter Deutch of Florida.

Batsheva Mink will be co-writing a new gardening column in The Jernsalem Post starting Wednesday

LEGENDARY screen giant and two-time Oscar winner Anthony Quinn, 81, is being sued for divorce demanding an \$80 million settlement. The couple have been living apart for five years - since Quinn took off with his secretary, who is 48 years his junior, and with whom he has two children, aged four and one. The virile actor was apparently a violent father to his older children. One of his sons, Danny, 33, clams in an interview with the Italian weekly Oggi that Quinn was a wife beater and physically abusive to his children, It doesn't quite gel with his immortal Zorba image.

## BRULIK

by DOSH







### CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

### **ACROSS**

- 1 Judge, you say, sad about traitor (5)
- 12 One making a mark affoat 13 Girl to transport couch (5) 14 Tailless antelope makes
- dash (4) 17 Make comparatively poor
- 22 Successfully manage one end of telescope (4)

- 4 Where Italians eat out of
- 10 Emergency phone for stolen stock of goods? (3,4) 11 Old lady caught by ax becomes a beggar (7)
- effort to get at contents of lorry? (3,3,4,4)
- 19 Put on a strange diet? For Adam, it was an apple (9,5) 23 Pattern of fungus? (5)

## 24 A quiet song or two (4)

- 27 One country expelling a student—to this one? (7) 28 Artist's final work shows a superficial improvement
- 29 Spaniel—rocalist gives. nome to a pair (8) 50 Most of time, I would

## appear shy (5)

### DOWN

- all spit and 1 Boy's polish—that's England
- 2 Tried to move to US city (7) 3 Toss coin in error (4)
- 5 Tolerant philozophy confounded all evident evil (4,3,3,4)6 Wrong gear for fashion (4)

## 25 Jenny who went to aca (4) 26 Badly-behaved youngster has right to enter club (4) SOLUTIONS

7 Eat a bird (?) 8 Frequently is more mall-

recommend one to argue an

dream happily of higger

spirits

eable, removing top (5)

Malicious spiri

unpopular cause (6,8)

income (5)

if I speak (5)

very formal (8)

15 Indian worker starts to

16 Morally improve small boy,

18 Looked round the church,

20 Propose motion? He would

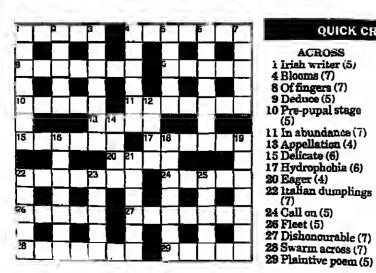
do the converse (7)
21 First to understand the aymbol for this bomb

component (7)
22 Muddle as Charles gets

nothing to eat (5)



Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Shandy, 4 Layer, 8 Attic, 9 Iliness, 10 Conceal, 11 Idea, 12 Err, 14 Dais, 15 Elan, 18 End, 21 Rose, 23 Ejected, 25 Advance, 26 Vocal, 27 Eerie, 28 Friend. BOWN: 1 Scarce, 2 Antenna, 3 Decreuse, 4 Loll, 5 Yield, 6 Rescal, 7 Aisle, 13 Receiver, 16 Article, 17 Urbane, 19 Deter, 20 Addied, 22



## QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS Iriah writer (5) 4 Blooms (7) 8 Of fingers (7) 9 Deduce (5)
- 10 Pre-pupal stage 11 In abundance (7) 13 Appellation (4) 15 Delicate (6) 17 Hydrophobia (6)
- 22 Italian dumplings 24 Call on (5) 26 Fleet (5) 27 Dishonourable (7) 28 Swarm across (7)
- DOWN i Walked like a duck (7) 2 Light beer (5)
- 5 Bay window (6) 6 Arab dignitary (7) 7 Regretful (5) 12 Fairy (4) 14 Indian nanny (4)

4 S London district

- 16 Worship (7) 18 Loan (7) 19 Surfeit (7) 21 Sight (6) 22 Relish (5)
- 23 Prepare food (5) 25 Cavalry sword (5)





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Sept. 11

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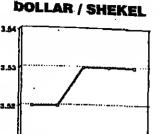
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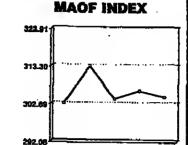
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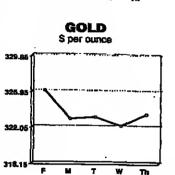
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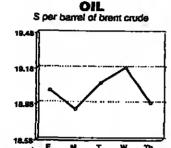
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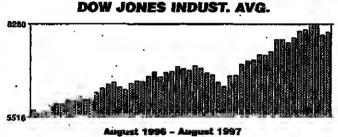












### Claridge seeks gov't OK for Koor merger

Claridge Israel Ltd. filed a letter of intent with the Antitrust Authority to merge with Koor Industries Ltd., a spokespersoo for the company said yesterday. Claridge has not announced what size stake it is seeking to purchase in Koor. Last month, Claridge bought a 10% stake in Koor with an option to buy an additional 10% within 90 days. Jennifer Friedlin

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## Comverse to buy Boston Tech. for \$858m.

Acquisition of major competitor could create 1,000 local jobs

#### By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Comverse Technology Inc.'s purchase of Boston Technology could create create 1,000 new jobs in Israel within the next year, said Itsik Danziger, Chief Operating Officer of Comverse's Network Systems

Comverse, a NY-based developer of telecommunications systems, yesterday announced that it acquired one of its main competitors, Boston Technology Inc., for about \$858.5 million in stock.

The company currently employs 1,600 people worldwide, 1,200 of them in Israel. Following the merger, the company will grow to 2,600 employees.

Comverse's Israeli division, Efrat Future

Technology, is currently growing by 500 eign software engineers. employees per year. As a result of the merg-

er that figure could double, Danziger said.
"Efrat is in a rapid growth stage," he said. "We expect that it will grow even more, taking on more eogineers and technicians and extending the research and development and manufacturing facilities."

Prior to the merger, two-thirds of Comverse's activities, in terms of people and revenues, were conducted in Israel. Now, that figure will drop to 50%.

Although the company wants to increase local employment opportunities, a shortage of engineers might force Comverse to export some of the jobs abroad, said Danziger, who criticized the government's policy of not granting work permits to for-

We could increase exports from Israel by \$500,000 for every foreign engineer we employed, but the government won't allow us to bring in software eogineers from India or the Philippines," Danziger said. "They permit bringing in agriculture workers from Thailand, but high-tech workers they don't allow in."

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky has said that he expects a shortage of 7,000 engineers by the year 2000.

By purchasing Boston Technology,

Comverse said it expects its newly acquired sales force to generate greater revenues.

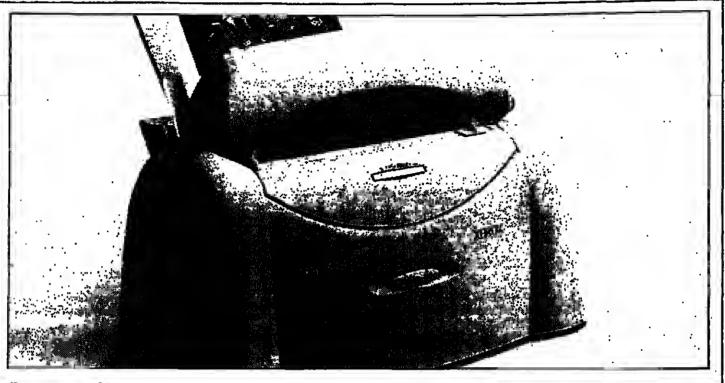
"In places like China, where the market is composed of many tens of telephone companies, we didn't have enough sales force to

attack all the potential opportunities," Danziger said.

Founded in 1984, Comverse develops computer and telecommunications technologies and services such as voice mail, digital answering services, audio informational services and fax mailboxes.

Boston Technology supplies systems, software and services to telephone, long distance, cellular, cable and other companies in the telecommunications industry. The company serves half of the world's 20 largest telephone companies in 13 coun-

The combined company is expected to have annual revenues of about \$400m. The companies expect to complete the merger by the end of the year.



#### Do you copy?

Xerox Corp. unveiled its new \$499 combination printer, copier and scanner. Dubbed the Document HomeCenter, the product is designed for personal computers and is intended for home use.

## More currency restrictions lifted

The Bank of Israel and the host of foreign currency reforms uals, businesses and financial insti-

The reforms will go into effect once the commercial banks and the Justice Ministry have ironed out legal and logistic technicalities, a process that could take up to three months, said Avigdor Levy, a spokesman for the bank. The reforms include:

 Allowing Israelis to purchase foreign currency with shekels and to keep the currency in local accounts. Today, Israelis are only permitted to

Tel Aviv-Yato

Plaintiff:

Magistrate's Court

purchased overseas or borrowed. At this stage Israelis will still not be imposed on mutual funds that want Treasury yesterday announced a allowed to open bank accounts to invest abroad. Last month, the abroad.

ability to pass foreign currency from one account to another.

 Permitting Israelis and foreigners traveling abroad to buy up to \$1,000 in foreign currency at the point of departure. Previously only foreigners were allowed to purchase foreign currency - up to \$500 upon leaving Israel.

 Removing the ceiling on how much Israeli companies can invest overseas. Currently, Israeli companies can only invest up to 15% of their sales or 25% of their capital in

Civil Case 33780/97

Tel Aviv-Yafo Magistrate's Court

deposit foreign currency if it was foreign stocks.

· Eliminating all the restrictions central bank raised the ceiling from

 Allowing foreigners the right to convent foreign currency deposited in the Bank of Israel to shekels. Permitting Israeli banks to pur-

chase shekels from overseas banks in exchange for foreign currency, a step designed to increase shekel trading. The reforms are another stage in

the central bank's plan to reduce the number of restrictions imposed on Israelis and to increase the fluidity of shekel trading, said Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

These steps have a clear objective: to provide the citizen of Israel with more freedom to manage his property and to manage his money."

"We have today an Israeli economy that is ready to become integrated in the world economy, and there's no reason why Israeli citizens and businesspeople should be restrained by restrictions that were created for another framework." Last month, the Bank of Israel

raised the ceiling on the percent of assets pension funds could invest abroad from 2% to 5%.

In February the central bank announced another round of reforms, including allowing citizens to deposit more from foreign currency loans and to buy any foreign securities, either abroad or via a local broker.

## D. Eretz advance in highway bid

#### Jerusalem Post Staff

Israel Transport Ventures and the Derech Eretz Consortium have advanced to the next stage of the bidding process for the \$600million-\$700m. contract to build the main section of the Trans-Israel Highway, the central committee of Trans-Israel Highway announced yesterday.

Blue and White Lanes and the Israel Kingsway Group were eliminated from the bidding process. Israel Transport Ventures consists

of Transroute International (France) and the Yona Group, along with Atkinson Middle East (US), Balfour Beatty (UK), Shapir, and Ravad

The Derech Eretz Consortium is run by Africa Israel Investments Ltd. and Canadian Highways Investment Corp., together with Societe Generale d'Enterprises (France), Hughes Aircraft Systems International (US), COFIROUTE Danya-Cebus Construction, Kfar Giladi Quarries. Malibu Israel Ltd., and Alon Israel Oil Company.

In May, the four consortia-officially submitted their bids.

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Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96) ncy (deposit for:) 3 MONTHS & MONTHS 12 MONTHS Currency (deposit for;)
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Yen (10 million yen) 5.000 4.000 5.375 4,250 2.125 1.000 4.750 3.875 1.625 1.625 (Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (21.8.97)

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#### THE LOCAL COUNCIL OF MEVASSERET ZION Tender No. 28/97 (preliminary to a subsequent closed lender)

The Mevasseret Zion Local Council invites entrepreneurs and/or legally constituted groups of entrepreneurs to submit bids in a preliminary tender for the construction of a sports and health center (hereafter; sports center) in Mevasseret Zion.

sports and hearin center theretizer; sports center; in recreating the solution which will be accepted within the framework of a preliminary tender which will select the sole candidates eligible to participate in a subsequent closed tender for the construction and long-term operation of a sports center, in keeping with the terms of the contract and the tender which will be purchased by the entrepreneurs. Eligible to take part in the tender are entrepreneurs from israel and abroad or legally constituted groups of a number of entrepreneurs who possess proven financial ability to erect a sports center on a scope of US\$ 3 (three) million. Bidders must attach to their bids confirmation from a bank of their financial ability.

In the preliminary stage entrepreneurs will be required to submit confirmation of written agreements with contractors listed in the highest professional category for building a sports center with all facilities, and of agreements with sports center operators experienced in running similar institutions in Israel (attaching references and

in the preliminary stage, bids must include the fullest information on the professional capabilities and experience of the entrepreneurs, contractors and operators, as well as references. The council reserves the right, even in the preliminary stage, to request any additional details it considers necessary for verifying information on the entrepreneurs,

5. The documents for the closed tender and details of the future agreements, the main features of the planned project, nature of the sports center and its location will be available from August 25, 1997, as part of the preliminary tender, which is available at the council offices, during regular office hours, against payment of NIS 5,000, which will not be refunded under any circumstances.

Entrepreneurs purchasing the tender documents who desire additional information from the council members who drafted the tender may arrange an appointment with them through the secretary of the deputy head, Ms. Shull Levi, Tel. 02-5348504, or 02-

The council reserves the right to interview the bidders and examine their professional competence and financial means before deciding which entrepreneurs may participate

Bidden found suitable who comply with all the conditions of the preliminary tender will take part in a closed tender in which all the conditions and details of the project will be set forth. Participants in the tender will be required to deposit an unconditional bank guarantee in favor of the Local Council for the amount of NIS 350,000, which will be forfeited by the successful bidder if he does not sign a contract with the council, as required by the terms of the tender.

10. Bids for the preliminary tender should be delivered to the council in a sealed envelope and placed in the tender box by October 27, 1997 at 12 noon. Bids submitted after this date will not be considered. 11. The council does not undertake to accept any bid and reserves the right, within the framework of the preliminary tender, to select the best group of bidders for the closed tender on the basis of financial, public or other considerations.



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TASE ROUNDUP

## Stocks mixed on concern over Wall Street drop

Mishtanim 294.46 **▼ -0.19**%

Maof **304.65 ▼ -0.6**%

The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange was mixed yesterday as investors expressed concern about potential drops in New York markets after the close of the week's trading in

Tel Aviv. The Maof Index of 25 mosttraded stocks closed down 0.6 percent to 304.65. The Mishtanim Index of 100 most-traded stocks dropped 0.19%, to 294.46. In the

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-25 +65 +16 +0 +32

-0.34

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12.76 32.5625 24.55 49.25 49.25 30.1875 30.875 32.875 27.375

-225 -0.125 -0.4375 -0.4375 -0.125 -0.0025 -0.0025 -0.0025 -0.0025 -1.125 -0.0025 -0.0025

-0.0025 +0.0025 -2.75 -0.1876 +0.376 -1.3125 +0.375 -0.375 -0.375 -0.3125

925 4.125 4.525 4.

46.5 106.875 97.5625 52.1875 24.375 26.875 17.8125 73.75 22.125 34.875

SOURCE SAP COMSTOCK (DATE 21-AUG-97) DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA AB A COMPUTER AYSTEMS LIMITED

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds

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broader market, three stocks gained for every two that declined. Leading the market lower were Clai Insurance, slumping 8%, foods producer Osem, down .25%, and Bank Leumi, down

2.5% Offsetting the drops were Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd., up 5.75%. Nice Systems, up 6.5%, and hightech holding company Elron Electronic Industries, up 3%.
There are fears of drops on

Wall Street," said Idan Azoulay, a fund manager at Impact Securities. There is a bad feeling after what happened last week when people returned" and New York had dropped 3%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 1.3% on Wednesday.

Mark Meiras, managing director Pacific Mediterranean Securities Ltd., said that investors

are waiting for Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel's decision on September interest rates. due Monday.

"No one is going to be taking significant positions until after Monday," he said

Azoulay said that investors bave accuunted fur an expected 0.3 percentage point interest rate rise. "Everyone is ready in anticipation of a 0.3% increase," he said.

Elbit Medical, a maker of medical scanners, gained after the company's shares traded in New York yesterday.

Nice Systems, a maker of digital voice-logging systems, went up after the company was reiterated "strong buy" Salomon Brothers and "buy" at Lehman Brothers. The company's American depositary receipts rose S.4% in New York on Wednesday. (Bloomberg)

### **WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP**

## Euroshares run out of steam as Dow falters

LONDON (Reuters) - Wall Street's early signal that its threeday recovery may have ran out of steam, a cue long-awaited by European dealers, pulled London shares off session highs and dragged a thin Paris market lower on yesterday.

Only the Frankfurt bourse, which closed before New York opened, stuck doggedly to its advance on relief the Bundesbank had left interest rates intact.

In London, Europe's biggest market, profit-taking after this week's sharp gains sent the FTSE 100 blue-chip index drifting off the session's best after the Dow Industrials Average slipped 60 points during the first two hours of trade after three days of 100-point-

plus gains. Refusing to top 5,000 again, as it had done for the first time earlier this month, the FTSE back-pedalled from earlier gains achieved partly on the back of Wall Street's rise, and closed 19.6 points higher

al 4,978.0. "There is an increasing number of people thinking that beyond the 5,000 level there is not a great deal of support in the market," one trader said.

Shares in British Telecom provided a boost to the FTSE, rising 28-1/2 pence to 412 after the company confirmed it was talking with MCI to re-negotiate economic terms of their planned merger.
Frankfurt's DAX index stuck to

its advance throughout the day as expectations were fulfilled that the Bundesbank would not raise interest rates after it's first council meeting since the summer break. In a more pessimistic and boliday-thinned Paris, the leading

CAC-40 index slipped on profittaking following the Bundesbank announcement, and was pulled

down further by Wall Street's sluggish opening performance.
The Dow Jones Industrial Average ended up 103.13 points,

or 1.3 percent, at 8,021,23 on Wednesday, having regained over three sessions more than it lost during Friday's 247-point plunge, its second biggest points fall ever.

> the relentless rise in U.S. share prices might still have further to go after its recent correction. The Dow was back below 8,000, a level it breached for the first

A surge in technology stocks

boosted investors' confidence that

time just over a month ago. Some European investors were encouraged by the US market's resilience, but others were concerned at the speed of the recovery and wary of stumbling on the road

"People are very wary of Wall Street at the moment, but nevertheless we will respond favorably to it," one London share trader

On the currency markel, a thinly-veiled threat from the Bundesbank pushed the dollar down to close lower against the mark, a retreat accelerated by the apparent petering out of US stocks.

Although the central bank left interest rates unchanged, it announced a plan to set its key securities repurchase tenders every Tuesday as opposed to every second week - a return to previous policy seen as keeping markets even more on edge about possible rate bikes to defend the mark.

"The Bundesbank is playing it very clever. While we don't see them raising rates just yet, they are effectively keeping the threat alive and keeping a lid on dollar/mark." said Arnaud Mares, European strategist at Credit Agricole Indosuez

Sterling tumbled after the Confederation of British Industry. the country's leading business lobby, said export orders were at five-year lowa and forecast a decline in the pound throughout

## WALL STREET REPORT

# Dow plummets 127 points after electrifying rally

NEW YORK (Reuters) -Stocks backpedaled yesterday as investors banked some profits after lifting the Dow Jones industrial average more than 300 points higher over the last three

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow ended down 127.28 points, or 1.5 percent, at 7,893,95.

Wall Street was also nervous heading into today's session. which has tended to bring big losses recently. Last Friday, the Dow plunged

247 points in the second biggest point drop since the 1987 stock market crash. In the broader market, declin-

ing issues swamped advances 2l on moderate volume of 494 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Nasdaq composite index fell 21.95 points, or 1.3 %, to 1,606.75.

Inveators were also preoccupied with a drop in bonds and renewed weakness in the dollar. "It's no accident that as the

dollar rallied over the past three

days, stocks jumped. But today the dollar fell back and so did stocks," said Peter Canelo, US equity strategist at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.

The dollar was hurt by mounting concerns that Germany may be preparing to raise interest rates, which combined to knock bonds into 2 similar tailspin.

The dollar ended at 1.8360 German marks, down from 1.8558 marks in late New York trading Wednesday.

The Treasury's key 30-year bond fell 27/32, or \$8.44 on a \$1,000 bond, which raised its yield to 6.61 % from Wednesday's close of 6.54 %. Bond prices and yields move in opposite directions.

Among the big movers, MCl Communications Corp. fell 6-1/8 to 30-9/6 in heavy trading after the company said it was in talks with British Telecommunications Plc about the terms of their \$28.7 billion merger deal and could not guarantee the outcome of the negoti $\leq g_{\rm c}$ 

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### in brief

### Chazan wants IDF to halt AIDS testing

MK Naomi Chazan (Meretz) is demanding that Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai order that blood tests for AIDS detection not be taken from soldiers. She said the tests are carried out only on homosexuals, Ethiopians, drug users, and those with tattoos and are carried out without their consent or knowl-

By defining certain target groups for AIDS tests, the IDF is acting irresponsibly and branding these soldiers, and it is opening the front door to the racist genie and the fear and hatred of the different," Chazan said.

#### Matza to mediate rift for MDA, fund-raisers

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza will spend three days in the US next week to try to resolve an ongoing dispute between American Red Magen David for Israel and Magen David Adom management in Tel Aviv.

The dispute has caused delays in the transfer of funds from the American friends' organization, including \$3.2 million promised for a communications system and \$850,000 for a computer system in the blood bank.

ARMDI donations have dropped from \$2 million four years ago to less than \$500,000 today, but the donation of 60 to 70 new ambulances a year continues.

The Health Ministry did not disclose the cause of the dispute between the fund-raisers and MDA officials.

#### Bezeg cuts rates on calls to US

Bezeq International has cut its overseas dialing rates to four countries, including the US, effective today, with permission from the Communications Ministry. This, says BI, makes its charges for calls to the US the cheapest in the market 61 agorot plus VAT per minute.

The cuts were made possible because BI's share of the market has fallen below 70% over the past 28 days, thus the ministry has reduced its control of rates.

The new rates to France and Holland are 84 agorot and to Moroccd NIS 1.07 (all plus VAT, per minute). These cheaper rates are for those who register with BI.

Judy Sies

#### Two arrested in robbery-shooting

Two men were arrested yesterday for the armed robbery and shooting of the manager of a Tel Aviv employment agency earlier in the day. As the manager left the agency, on Rehov Dizengoff, for the bank, carrying a suitcase containing \$20,000 in cash, two med pulled up on a motorcycle and demanded the bag. When he refused to give it to them, one shot him in the leg, lightly wounding him. They then took the money and fled.

Police traced the two to a Jaffa bouse and arrested them. recovering the suitcase, the money, and the victim's wallet. The two face a remand hearing today.

#### Cabinet OKs 'security basket' for taxi drivers

The cabinet yesterday authorized Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy to determine priorities for a "security basket" to protect taxi drivers, and asked him and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman to come up with funding for the program within 30

Among the suggestions for the basket are installing a satellitebased system that would help locate drivers during times of distress; installing a transparent divider between the driver and passenger seats; conducting courses for drivers on bow to respond if they are threatened; and issuing pistols to drivers

Jerusalem Post Staff



Netanyahu and 'The Nanny'

American television actress Fran Drescher, star of "The Nanny," chats with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and his wife Sara at the Knesset last night. She attended a Knesset ceremony celebrating 100 years since the founding of modern Zionism. The festivities were sponsored by the Jerusalem Municipality and the Jerusalem Fund of Aish HaTorah.

## Wiesenthal Center seeks war trial

## Office wants alleged Nazi Konrad Kalejs extradited from Australia

#### By ARYEH DEAN COHEN and news agencies

The Simon Wiesenthai Center's israel Office called on Latvia yesterday to seek the extradition of Konrad Kalejs from Australia for alleged Nazi war crimes.

Kalejs, 84, returned to Australia on Wednesday after being deponed from Canada two days earlier. As an alleged officer with the notorious Arajs Kommando in Latvia. Kalejs is accused of involvement in the murders of tens of thousands of Jews during World War ii.

Efraim Zuroff, director of the Wiesenthal Center's Israel Office, said he wrote a leiter to Latvia's Ambassador to Israel. Ivars Silars, asking Latvia to try Kalejs.

"He committed most of his crimes in Latvia," Zuroff wrote. "We believe that such a trial, if held in Latvia, would be of

for the Latvian people and contemporary Latvian society

Zuroff gopes Latvia could 'provide the documents and witnesses that have so far eluded the Australian authorities."

An official at the Latvian embassy said yesterday that the request was submitted to Latvia's foreign ministry.

If Latvia tried to have Kalejs extradited. they may have a problem because Australian law wouldn't permit dis deportation, even if he were convicted in Australia of war crimes, Australia's Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock

Zuroff arged Australia earlier this week to try Kalejs. The country's attorney general promised to investigate.

The bead of Australia's now defunct war crimes investigations unit accused the

against Kalejs.

"I feel disappointed that Australia, my country, has put uself in this position where it can legitimately be criticized by the international community," said Bob Greenwood, former head of Australia's Special Investigations Unit.

Greenwood said that he warned the government in 1992, that Kalejs, an Australian citizen, was bound to return, and that "they would have to be ready to act, otherwise the country could easily become some-thing of an international laughing stock."

"What the Australian Federal Police should by now be in a position to do is to take immediate action either to interview and possibly charge Kalejs, or inform Kalejs their investigation is such that they won't be charging him under the War Crimes Act," Greenwood said.

Unit in 1992 after three failed prosecutions and order that it was wasting nullions of dollars or taxpayers' money

Former Nazi was crimes investigator Graham Blewitt, now deputy prosecutor of the war crimes tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, said it was unlikely Kalejs would ever be prosecuted.

Blewitt told Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio that investigators never found enough evidence to prosecute

"We reached the stage that there was insufficient evidence to bring a prosecution under the fairly bigh standard required to convict someone in the Australian courts, namely you needed to establish his guilt beyond reasonable doubt."

Blewitt also said he did not believe the present government would be happy to e issue of war coin

## **Soldier** stable after spider bite

### By JUDY SIEGEL

A 21-year-old soldier bitten in his sleep Wednesday night by a black widow spider was in stable condition yesterday after suffering a severe reaction to the

Doctors at Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed said they used various medications to relieve the symptoms, claiming that they could not locate antivenio for black widow venom.

Health Ministry associate director-general Dr. Boaz Lev said, however, there is an adequate supply of antivenin for black widow vectom in the emergency storeroom of the health ministry in Tel Aviv, and in this case its use was not necessary. Dr. Yosef Ezri, head of the res-

piratory intensive care unit at Rebecca Sieff hospital, noted that antivenin is in any case not recommended in the treatment of most black widow bites, as it can cause anaphylactic shock in some victims. Thus the antivenin should be used only for youngsters under the age of 16, old people, patients with chronic illnesses and others with

very serious reactions. The soldier, who lives in the center of the country, was sleeping in an army tent on the Golan Heights when he awoke to the feeling of a needle prick. When he looked at his jaw, he saw a red spot with a white halo around it; within half an hour, he felt severe stomach and muscle pains, contractions of his back muscles, pain in his knees and weakness.

Emergency room and intensive care unit doctors who diagnosed the cause said such bites are very rare and that they had never seen such a serious reaction to a black widow bite. They gave him Valium and drugs against

He was fully conscious yesterday, but was still suffering from heavy sweating and rapld changes in blood pressure. These after-effects could continue for as long as a week said Ezri, but death from black widow bites is rare.

## High Court gives go-ahead to Siso

### By BATSHEVA TSUR

Shmuel Siso will take up the post of consul-general in New York next week, after the High Court of Justice yesterday turned down a petition challenging his qualifications.

Justices Shlomo Levine, Theodor Orr, and Dalia Domer rejected the petition by the Movement for Quality Government outright and ruled there were insufficient grounds for court intervention. "I am very relieved. The petition was based on rumors

and justice has been done. I shall prove to all my opponents how well I can represent the state as consul-general." Siso said in response.

The petition argued that Siso, until now mayor of

Kiryat Yam, "did not have the relevant qualifications and experience for the position, one of the most important and sensitive in the foreign service." It alleged that Siso's appointment was political and that Foreign Minister David Levy was beholden to Siso for belging

Also noted in the appeal was that the Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander had questioned the administrative procedure involved in Siso's appoint-

The justices ruled that it is not the court's duty to intervene in political appointments unless corruption is involved. They said that movement members should have expressed their feelings on the op-ed page of a

## his Gesher Party in the 1996 election campaign.

newspaper rather than in court.

#### **SISO** Continued from Page 12

Siso has met with UN Ambassador Dore Gold, and hopes the two can cooperate, each within his own area of authority. In the past there bave been periodic tensions between

the UN ambassador and the New York consul-general. "We are in the middle of the peace process," he says. "This is not a business argument or a dispute with neighbors at home. It's an historic dispute and as such it will not be solved overnight. There are ups and downs. Right now we seem to be in a 'dowa' but we must pray that an 'up'

- ·follows. Crises and achievemeats can both be expected."

Siso had praise for his predecessor Avital, who was appointed by the previous Labor goveroment. He said that she represented Israel well. "I hope that I will also represent Israel well - in all its variety," he said.

Siso has to resign as mayor to take up the consul post, but said he hopes to return to Kiryat Yam when his term in New York is up. Aparı from his former law practice he is also a board member of several concerns including Amigus, the public housing com-

pany.
"I'm not the type of person who lives just for politics. I ran for mayor because I grew up on the mistakes made in the absorption of immigrants during my parents' time and I am grateful for the chance to do it different-

ly." Siso said. Sisc says he hopes to prove himself at his new job despite the hurtful criticism of his English skills. He writes off the criticism as motivated mainly by . jealousy.

These attacks, as I said, come from irrelevant considerations. Perhaps there are those who think that if I don't go, they will go in my place, oe said.
in New York, said Siso, "I will

be able to represent the State of Israel in the best possible way. I know that in the US. people are judged by their achievements."



### Kahalani chats with Russia's premier

Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin (right) gestures as he chats with Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kanalani in Moscow yesterday Meanwhile, Asst. Cmdr. Meir Gilbon, who heads the investigation into the Zvi Ben-Ari case and who accompanied Kahalani to Russia, said that he expected Russian authorities would provide evidence regarding Ben-Ari's alleged involvement in murder.

#### PMContinued from Page 1

He cited the freezing of funds owed the PA, denying workers access to places of employment, and barring staples from reaching con-

sumers in Gaza. Capines secretary Dar. Naven assailed Arafat for initiating the "national unity" talks, saying he is

"two-faced." "On the one hand, he says he is against terrorism, and afterwards he runs to hug the killers of women and

children," Naveh said. Referring to Arafat's show of cordiality and affection toward Hamas and Islamic Jihad leaders, Naveh said: "If he is truly a partner in peace, the way he claims he is, he must fight these organizations and certain-

iv not embrace them. Au independent Palestinian analyst described Arafat's bid for rap-

prochement with the Islamic fundamentalists as a political error. He contended that national unity that included Harnes and Islamic Jihad could only rebound against him.

"It was a mistake for him to have hugged Hamas's Abdul-Azziz Ranusi and Islamic Jihad's Sheikh Nafez Azzam." he said, noting that the israeli public conic not be expected to understand this kind of "Arab mentality."

The analyst also said rank-and-file Palestinians are infuriated at Arafat for "engaging in ceremonies" when they are waiting for changes in his "corrupt administration."

At the cabinet meeting, Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen, Matan Vilna'i and OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon reported on the situation in southern Lebanon and recent negotiations with the PA. The discussion was officially described as a follow up to the security cabinet's prior deliberations.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon said the closure could be eased, while at the same time the free access granted Palestinian VIPs. whom he described as "high-rollers and bar flies who suck the juice of the Palestinian people," could be canceled. Sharon contended that the freedom of movement given these intimiduais is 'a gesture' and is col-obligatory under the Osio Accords.

That kind of action would have much more influence than a closure, which helps Arafat engage in antiisrael propaganda, he said. Health Minister Yehoshua Matza

said it is impossible to reconcile oneself with Arafat's statements in which he grants recognition to Hamas and justifies terrorism. "Instead of his complying with the

demand that he fight terrorism, the very opposite is taking place," Maiza said. Hamas is burning Israeli tlags and engaging in incitement with Arafat's support."

#### BARAK Continued from Page 1

The Histadrut also said it would seek a court injunction against the party, and accused Barak of planning to hire staff of his own choice and heve them sign personal con-

Angry employees festooned the building with hurriedly-composed. hand-painted placards. Some signs compared Barak's behavior to accusations that as IDF chief of general staff, he failed to stay behind after soldiers died in an accident at the Tze'elim base.

"Barak flees again - us at The ollow" one poster said. Borak

is used to running away," read -another. Yet a third said: "Barak will never become prime minister this way." MK Yossi Beilin, who had chal-

lenged Barak for the party leadership several months ago, urged Barak to rescind the dismissals and ic negotiate with the staff about eudget euts.

#### STRIKE Continued from Page 1

Katz scoffed at Finance Migister Yaakov Neeman, who "cannot understand" what the

strike is about. "Neeman is all set. He has a budgetary sension [senior officials get their pension from the state budges, without having to

pay part of their wages for it all

their life]. Moreover, his wages are updated every few months by dozens of percent," he said.

The Histadrut has not yet decided whether to strike the whole economy at the beginning of September, or to strike separately in each sector, then escalate to a general strike.

The leaders of the larger unione urged a nationwide strike, including mass denionstrations and roadblocks, which

would paralyze the entire economy for weeks on end.

Earlier this week. Histadrut sent out more than 100 notices to employers in the public and business sector, warning of the expected general strike. The strike notices were also sent to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, the entire cabinet and the directors-general of all the unnistries.

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## McGrath puts Australia in control

LONDON (AP) - Australia, alarming turn as he took two for spired by a brilliant spell of fast wling by Glenn McGrath, took ontrol of the sixth and final crickth Test against England at the Oval esterday.

i he Jeruseie,

After McGrath had taken seven 76 to bowl out England for 180 the stroke of tea, Australia ored 77 for the loss of the two eners - Matthew Elliott (12) d Mark Taylor (38) - at stumps the first day.

Greg Blewett was on 10 and tark Waugh was unbeaten on 13 hen bad light and a light rain ut short the day's play by 8.5

McGrath, who returned a careerest eight for 38 in the rain-ruined econd Test at Lord's, made a ockery of the England innings fter lunch.

England, sitting coinfortably on 7 for two, lost eight wickets for 78 is, five of them to McGrath in a ball spell that cost him 43 runs. McGrath began the England lide with his first ball after lunch vhen he trapped Alec Stewart leg efore wicket to end a stubborn leveloped before the lunch break. '3-run third-wicket stand that had Hussain and Thorpe put on 31 uns for the fourth wicket before in 23 balls with wickets in three

consecutive overs. At the other end leg-spinner Shane Warne was producing

18tt alia

32 in 17 overs.

Australia has the Ashes scaled thanks to an unbeatable 3-1 lead before this Test, and can now set eyes on securing its first win at the Oval since 1972

McGrath took his series tally to 36 wickets, placing him third behind Terry Alderman's record 42 and Dennis Lillee's 39 wickets in 1981.

It was once again a most disastrous hatting performance by England, whose reshuffled batting lineup for the second time in successive Tests did more harm than good.



DISMISSED - Australia's Glenn McGrath celebrates dismissing England captain Mike Atherton for 8 runs during yesterday's 6th Test.

## Bruck, Orbach set national swim marks

By HEATHER CHAIT and agencies

Israel's reputation may have fallen in the world of soccer, but in the swimming pool, only records

Yoav Bruck and Eytan Orbacb both set new national times yesterday on the third day of the European Championships in Seville, Spain.

Bruck, ripped for a medal, finished sixth in the 100 meters freestyle with his best ever time of 50:14. This bettered his previous record of 50:59.

Bruck went into the final in eighth place from the morning heats where he swam the distance in 50:64.

Orbach chose the heats to clinch his new record in the 200m back-

stroke. His time was 2:03:07, sevenhundredths better than Yoav Gat's time set at the recent Maccahiah.

In the B final, Orbach clocked 2:03:39, taking 14th place overall. The relay team swims the 4x100 freestyle event today with Yoav Meiri (200m fly), Bruck (50m free) and Orbach (100m back) in competition tomorrow.

The tournament ends on Sunday when Bruck, Orbach, Halika and Meiri fly to Catama. Sicily to compete in the Universiada.

Hase's revenge Dagmar Hase of Germany, the silver medalist behind Michelle

Smith in the Atlanta Olympics a year ago, got revenge winning the 400-meter freestyle to stop Smith's bid for an unprecedented five individual gold medals.

Smith, swimming under the surname of her husband - Erik de Bruin - has already won gold here in the 200 freestyle and 400 individual medley.

The 27-year-old Hase - the 1992 Olympic champion in the 400 free and second in '96 - won in 4 minutes 9.52 seconds to pull past Smith in the final 100m after swimming just behind her for the first 300. Smith finished in 4:10.50 and third was Kerstin Kielgass of Germany in 4:10.89.

Smith, 27, still has a chance to match the record of four individual golds shared by Germany's Ute Geweniger and Hungarian Krisztina Egerszegi. Smith is the defending Olympic champion in the 400 freestyle, and 200 and 400 IM. She's the defending European champion in the 200 butterfly and

Remaining on her agenda is a day off today with the 200 IM tomorrow and the 200 butterfly on Sunday.

In the men's 100m free, defending Olympie and European champion Alexander Popov of Russia won in 49.09, the fastest time in the world this year - topping Michael Kilm who had swum 49.15 two weeks ago.

CHILL OUT - White Sox's Ray Durham (I) is restrained by catcher Jorge Fabergas and 1st-base coach Bryan Little following his ejection after disputing a call for the third out of the 4th inning in a game against the Blue Jays. Chicago won 12-6.

### **MAJOR LEAGUE LEADERS**

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BATTING—Gwynn, San Diego, .379; LWalker, Colorado, .373; Piazza, Los Arre les, .348; Lotton, Atlanta, .347; Joyner, San Diego, .333; Alfonzo, New York, .321; Lankford, St. Louis, .316.

RUNS—Biggio, Houston, 112; LWalker, Colorado, 110; Bonds, San Francisco, 82; Galarraga, Colorado, 68; Bagwell, Houston, 86; EcYoung, Los Angeles, 79; Mondesi, Los Angeles, 75; Kent, San Francisco, 75; Castilla, Colorado, 75.

RBI—Galarraga, Colorado, 113; Bagwell, Houston, 106; LWalker, Colorado, 101; Gwynn, San Diego, 100; Kenl, San Francisco, 96; Ch.Jones, Atlanta, 95; Alou, Florida, 94.

Gwynn, San Diego, 100; Keni, San Francisco, 96; Ch.Jones, Atlanta, 95; Alou, Florida, 94.

HTS—Gwynn, San Diego, 176; LWalker, Colorado, 169; Biggio, Houston, 152; Womack, Pitisburgh, 148; Galarraga, Colorado, 148; Piazza, Los Angeles, 147; Mondesi, Los Angeles, 146.

HOME RUNS—LWalker, Colorado, 36; Bagwell, Houston, 33; Castilla, Colorado, 32; Galarraga, Colorado, 31; Bonds, San Francisco, 30; Piazza, Los Angeles, 27; Sosa, Chicago, 27.

STOLEN BASES—DSanders, Cincinnati, 56; Womack, Pittsburgh, 45; DeShields, St. Louis, 43; EcYoung, Los Angeles, 33; QVeras, San Diego, 29; Bigglo, Houston, 28.

PITCHING (14 Decisions)—Neagle, Atlanta, 16-3, 842, 2.84; Kile, Houston, 16-3, 842, 2.32; GMaddux, Atlanta, 16-3, 842, 2.38; Estes, San Francisco, 18-4, 800, 3.15; JHamilton, San Diego, 10-4, 714, 4.06; PJMartinez, Montreal, 14-6, 700, 1.64; Juden, Montreal, 11-5, 687, 422.

STRIKEOUTS—Schäling, Philadelphia, 242; PJMartinez, Montreal, 232; Nomo, Los Angeles, 187; Smoltz, Atlanta, 183; KJBrown, Florida, 171; Kile, Houston, 162; Albenes, St. Louis, 160.

AlBenes, St. Louis, 160.

SAVES—Beck, San Francisco, 34; Nen, Florida, 31; Wohlers, Atlanta, 31; SAVES—Beck, San Francisco, 34; Nen, Florida, 31; Wohlers, Atlanta, 31; SAVES—Beck, San Francisco, 34; Nen, Florida, 31; Wohlers, Atlanta, 31; ToWorrell, Los Angeles, 30; JoFranco, New York, 30; Eckersley, St. Louis, 30; Hoffman, San Diego, 29

AMERICAN LEAGUE BATTING—FThomas, Chicago, 347; Justice, Cleveland, 332; O'Neiti, New York, 331; Ramirez, Cleveland, 329; MVaughn, Boston, 328; EMartinez, Seattle, 2017. RUNS—Garciaparra, Boston, 98; Knoblauch, Minnesota, 94; Jeter. New York, RUNS—Garciaparra, Boston, 98; Knoblauch, Minnesota, 94; Jeter. New York, 92; Griffey Jr, Seattle, 92; EMertinez, Seattle, 89; BLHunter, Detroit, 88; ToClark, 92; Griffey Jr, Seattle, 92; EMertinez, Seattle, 89; BLHunter, Detroit, 88; ToClark,

RBI—TMartinez, New York, 118; Griffey Jr, Seattle, 114; Salmon, Anahelm, 103; RBI—TMartinez, New York, 118; Griffey Jr, Seattle, 114; Salmon, Anahelm, 103; FThomas, Chicago, 100; JuGonzalez, Texas, 100; O'Nelli, New York, 99; ToClark, Patria 202

HITS—Garciaparra, Boston, 166; Greer, Texas, 153; Jeter, New York, 152; Walentin, Boston, 149; GAnderson, Anaheim, 147; IRodriguez, Texas, 147; Cora,

Seattle, 146.

HOME RUNS—Grifley Jr. Seattle, 40: TMartinez, New York, 39: McGwire, Policial California, 28: Policial California, 28: Policial California, 28: FThomas, Chicago, 28: RPalmere, Baltimore, 28. ToClark, Detroit, 28: FThomas, Chicago, 28: RPalmere, Baltimore, 28. Nixon, STOLEN BASES—BLHunter, Detroit, 61: Knobleuch, Minnesota, 48: Nixon, Toronto, 47: TGoodwin, Texas, 40: Vizquel, Cleveland, 34: Durham, Chicago, 29: ARodrinusz, Seattle, 22

ARodriguez, Seattle, 22.
PTCHING (14 Decisions)—Clemens, Toronto, 19-4, .826, 1.78; RaJohnson, PTCHING (14 Decisions)—Clemens, Toronto, 19-4, .826, 1.78; RaJohnson, Seattle, 17-4, .810, 2.32; Moyer, Seattle, 12-4, .750, 4.28; Erickson, Baltimore, 14-5, .733, 335; Mussina, Baltimore, 13-5, .722, 3.19; Blair, Detroit, 13-5, .722, 3.97; Radke, Minnesota, 17-7, .708, 3.36.
STRIKEOUTS—RaJohnson, Seattle, .264; Clemens, Toronto, .226; Cone, New STRIKEOUTS—RaJohnson, Seattle, .264; Clemens, .155; Appler, Kansas City, York, 2.15; Mussina, Baltimore, .167; CFinley, Anahelm, .155; Appler, Kansas City, 152; Fassaro, Saattle, .149. 152; Fassero, Seattle, 149.
SAVES—MRivera, New York, 39; Raillyers, Battimore, 37; RHernandez, Chicago, 27; Wetteland, Texas, 27; DoJones, Milwaukee, 27; ToJones, Detroit, 23; Taylor, Oakland, 21.

## W L Pct. GB 78 49 .514 -73 52 .584 4 67 57 .540 9% 61 63 .492 15% 45 77 .369 30% 66 60 .524 -63 63 .500 3 58 67 .464 7½ 55 69 .443 10 50 77 .394 16% 56 .559 — 57 .544 2 65 .484 9% 66 .476 10% San Francisco Los Angeles Colorado W L Pct. 79 44 .642 75 50 .600 64 63 .504 60 65 .480 58 67 .464 Central Division 65 58 528 62 63 496 62 64 492 52 71 423 52 73 416 Milwaukee Chicago Kansas City Minnesota. West Division 56 .556 69 58 .543 1½ 60 67 .472 10½ 50 77 .394 20½

National League East Division

Wednesday's NL results: Colorado 5, Cincinnati 3; Piusbargh 7, San Diego 3; St. Louis 6, Montreal 3; Florida 6, Chicago 5; Atlanta 3, Houston 1; San Francisco ar Philadelphia, ppd., rain: Los Angeles at NY, ppd., rain.

Wednesday's AL results: Minnesota II, Detroit 1; Boston 7. Oakland 5 (1st); Boston 5, Oakland 4 (2nd, 13); NY 7, Anaheim 3 (1st); NY 8, Anaheim 5 (2nd); Baltimore 4, Kansas City 2; Chicago 12, Toronto 6; Milwankee 6, Texas 2; Seattle 1, Cleveland 0.

## Minnesota ends 10-game skid

DETROIT (AP) - Brad Radke (17-7) allowed one run and three hits in eight innings, and Denny Hocking, Terry Steinbach and Matt. Lawton homered as the Twins routed the Detroit Tigers 11-1 Wednesday to end a 10-game losing streak.

Minnesota, outscored 77-26 during the losing streak, bed 14 hits off five pitchers.

Scott Sanders (4-11) was tagged for five runs and five hits in 2% innings. He is 1-5 with a 6.95 ERA in seven starts since the Tigers acquired him from Seattle

White Sox 12, Blue Jays 6 Albert Belle homered, doubled twice and matched his season high with five RBIs for host Chicago. Belle went 3-for-3 and is hitting .190 (30-for-158) since the All-

James Baldwin (9-13) allowed two runs on seven hits and three walks in seven innings, and struck

Robert Person (5-9) gave up 10 runs - nine earned - on nine hits and six walks in 3% innings. Orioles 4, Royals 2 Rafael Palmeiro went 4-for-4

and drove in four runs with a pair of homers, and Jimmy Key (14-7) got his first victory since July 21 for visiting Baltimore. Baltimore has won eight of 11,

and 16 of its last 21 road games. At 79-44, the Orioles are 35 games over .500 for the first time since September 1983. Randy Myers pitched the ninth

for his 37th save this season and the 311th of his career, tying Tom Henke for sixth place on the career Brewers 6, Rangers 2

Bryce Florie (4-4) held host Texas hitless for 5% innings and Jeromy Burnitz went 3-for-4 with a homer and two RBIs as Milwaukee won for the fifth time in six games.

Fernando Vina homered and drove in two runs and Jeff Cirillo added a two-run single. Doug Jones got the final out for his 27th

Terry Clark (1-5) gave up six runs and nine hits in six innings. Mariners 1, Indians 0

Randy Johnson allowed two hits and struck out eight before leaving the game in the seventh inning because of a bruised middle finger on his left hand as the Mariners won at home. Johnson (17-4) re-aggravated an

injury that he sustained a couple of starts ago. He does not expect to

Johnson, bidding to win his second AL Cy Young Award in three seasons, outpitched Charles Nagy

home run in the fourth inning for the game's only run. Yankees 7, Angels 3 (1st)

Yankees 8, Angels 5 (2nd) Hideki Irahu threw a strong

Edgar Martinez hit his 22nd

double in the top of the ninth inning and John Valentin hit an RBI single in the 13th as Boston eompleted a doubleheader

The Red Sox won the first game as Vaughn's two-run double highlighted a seven-run fifth inning.

In the second game, Darren Bragg hit a leadoff single in the

Murray back with Dodgers NEW YORK (AP) — Eddle Murray, released by the Analysis Angels list week, signed Wednesday with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Murray, one of three players with more than 3,000 hits and 500 homers, will report to the Dodgers' Albaquerque Triple-A affiliate for traight's game of Salt Lake City.

For the 41-year-old Murray, it is his second sthat with Los Angeles. He played with the Dodgers from 1989-91 before joining the New York Mets in 1992.

The only other players with more than 3,000 hits and 500 ho are Hack Asron and Willie Mays. Murray has 3,253 hits said 504

game - along with his glove and a tantrum - and Derek Jeter homered twice as the New York Yankees beat the Anaheim Angels to complete a doubleheader

The Yankees won the opener as rookie Jorge Posada hit a three-run homer and Tino Martinez and Paul O'Neill each drove in two runs.

Irabu (4-2), making his sixth major league start, struck out eight in 6% innings. He allowed three runs and seven hits.

In the fourth inning, lrabu lost the handle on a bunt single by Dave Hollins. As the ball was heading into the Yankees dugont, Irabu threw his glove to try to keep it in play.

In the seventh, after Irabu was called for his second balk, he kicked hard at the dirt around the ruhber. Second hase umpire John Hirschbeck ran in and yelled at the pitcher, prompting Yankees manager Joe Torre to come to the

Jeter had three hits and drove in four runs as the Yankees won for the ninth time in 12 games. Dwight Gooden (7-4) allowed

just one run in six innings despite issuing five walks in the opener. Ramiro Mendoza got his second

Posada's second hig league homer came after Darryl Strawberry singled and Wade Boggs doubled to start the sixth. The homer extended New York's lead to 7-1 and finished Ken Hill

Red Sox 7, Athletics 5 (1st) Red Sox 5, Athletics 4 (2nd, 13) Mo Vaughn hit a tying, two-run Boston 13th off Don Wengert (5-10).Jeff Frye sacrificed and Nomar Garciaparra was walked intentionally before Valentin sin-

Joe Hudson (2-0) pitched 1% innings for the win. Tom Gordon worked the 13th for his first save since 1993 and fourth of his career.

Tim Wakefield (8-14) was the winner in the opener. Jimmy Haynes (1-3) was the loser. NATIONAL LEAGUE

Braves 3, Astros 1 Tom Giavine won for the first time in six starts since July 16,

stopping his longest winless streak in seven years as Atlanta won on Glavine (11-6) allowed two hits and five walks in seven innings

and struck ont a season-high nine in Wednesday night's game. He also drove in a run with a squeeze bunt as the Braves completed a two-game sweep following a slump that saw them lose four of

Mark Wohlers pitched the ninth for his 31st save in 35 chances. Javy Lopez went 3-for-4 and hit his 19th homer.

Shane Reynolds (6-8) dropped to 4-1 against the Braves, giving up all three runs and five hits in seven innings.

Marlins 6, Cubs 5 Livan Hernandez (7-0) won despite allowing four runs and six hits in 5% innings, and Gary Sheffield hit his 14th homer as host Florida improved to 7-0 this season against Chicago and climbed 21 games above .500 for the first time.

Chicago dropped 27 games below 500 for the first time since 1981. They finished 3-6 on a fourcity road trip.

Robh Nen retired three batters for his 31st save in 37 chances. Kevin Tapani (2-3) gave up six runs and six hits in 3% inmings.

Cardinals 6, Expos 3 Brian Jordan doubled off Steve Kline (0-1) to break a 2-all tie during a three-run eighth and visiting St. Louis won its third straight.

Pedro Martinez struck out 13 in 6% innings, fanning seven straight batters in the middle of the game. He allowed three hits and two

unearned runs, lowering his major league-best ERA to 1.64. Rookie Curtis King (3-0) won despite allowing Ryan McGuire's tying RB1 single in the bottom of pitched the ninth for his 30th save in 34 chances, sending

Montreal to its seventh loss in eight games. Pirates 7, Padres 3 Jason Schmidt (8-6) won his fourth consecutive decision since July 20 and broke an 0-for-26 slump with a key rum-scoring single as host Pittsburgh went ahead

in the sixth and won for the sixth

time in eight games. Pittsburgh, a scason-low seven games behind .500 as late as June 30, evened its record at 63-63 the Pirates' best at this stage of the season since 1992, when they last reached postseason play Schmidt allowed all three runs, six hits in 8% innings.

Rockies 5, Reds 3 Vinny Castilla and Ellis Burks homered, and Larry Walker took one away from host Cincinnati with a sensational catch.

Walker went 0-for-3 with a pair of walks, lowering his average three points to .373, but made the defensive play of the game to save the Rockies' lead in the sixth. He reached over the rightfield wall to take a two-run homer away from Jon Nunnally, then threw to first to complete a double play.

Frank Castillo (10-10) allowed only three hits over seven innings and improved to 4-1 since the Rockies acquired him from the

Cubs on July 15.
Loser Gabe White (1-1) allowed two runs and three hits in 5% innings.

The two other National League Games, San Francisco at Philadelphia and Los Angeles at New York Mets, were postponed because of rain.

## Phillips suspension overturned

NEW YORK (AP) - Tony Phillips' suspension by the Anaheim Angels was overturned Wednesday by an arbitrator, who ordered the team to immediately reinstate the outfielder to its active roster. After a 3-hour hearing, arbitrator Henry Bloch ruled the Angels had acted in violation of Major League Baseball's rules in suspending Phillips, who was arrested August 10 on a felony charge of

cocaine possession. In a highly unusual situation, the owners' Player Relations Committee sided with Phillips and the players' association against the Angels, who are operated by The Walt Disney Co.

A high-ranking baseball management official said Anaheim's decision to suspend Phillips on Monday was made by Disney chief executive officer Michael Eisuer over the objection of team officials. Disney, conscious of its image, has been under pressure since the Southern Baptist Convention voted in June to boycott the entertainment company, which owns 25 percent of the Angels.

## This weekend's Toto Cup action

This weekend brings the third round of the National League Toto competition, the first round of the second division league Toto and the third round of Premiership play from England. This weekend's games are (Friday unless noted):

NATIONAL LEAGUE Group Aleph: Maccabi Haifa vs. Hapoel Tel Aviv, in Kiryat Eliezer, 17:00. Rishon Le Zion vs. Betar Jerusalem, 17:00. Group Bet: Maccabi Herzliya vs. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Saturday, 18:00. Bnei Yehuda vs. Hapoel Petah Tikva, Schunat Hatikva, 16:30. Group Gimel: Hapoel Ashkelon vs. Hapoel Haifa, 16:30. Beit She'an vs Beersheba, 16:30. Group Dalet: Hapoel Jerusalem vs. Ironi Ashdod, Teddy Stadium, 16:30. Maccahi Petah Tikva vs. Hapoel Kfar Sava, Saturday, 17:00.

SECOND DIVISION: Group Aleph; Taiba vs. Nes Ziona, Um Al-Fahm, Saturday, 17:00. Bay Yam vs. Betar Tel Aviv, in Bat Yam, 17:00. Group Bet: Tsafrirm Holon vs. Maccahi Acre, Saurday, 17:00. Group Gimel: Maccabi Netanya vs. Bnei Sahnin, 17:00.

Premier League: Blackburn vs. Liverpool, Coventry vs. Bolton and Everton vs. Westham (All games Saturday)

# Hanegbi: Judges must be protected

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi came out yesterday in favor of administrative detentions if they are necessary to protect the lives

The division in charge of security of judges in the Justice Ministry has been working harder than ever," Haneghi told Israel Radio, noting that certain judges have been provided with bodyguards and that courtrooms are being protected.

"[Monday's] attack on the Petah Tikva courthouse is a low point which Israeli society had never reached before," he said. "The circumstances do not seem to indicate that this is an

individual criminal's act of revenge on some- If they are hurt, we shall all be hurt. We canone, but rather a campaign against the entire legal system. However, he refused to comment on who

might have been involved. Haneghi said that "any tool that is necessary to help guard the judges is vital, because it also guards democracy.

He said he had heard media reports that the Internal Security Ministry is considering the use of administrative detentions.

"[Such detentions] have been in use for decades in this country. I do not want to express an opinion on them." Haneghi said. But there is a threat here to human life and these judges are carrying out their public duty.

not rule out any tool that helps guard them,"

Reacting to Hanegbi's remarks, the Association for Civil Rights io Israel said that administrative detention is "a severe infringement of basic human rights. This is detention without trial and without the opportunity on the part of the detainee to react to the

ACRI said it had recently appealed to Hanegbi about hundreds of such detentions. "The explosion at the courthouse was a serious crime and should be handled by the police with all the means at its disposal... so that the criminals can be brought to trial," ACRI said in a statement.

## Susskin released to house arrest

Susskin, the woman accused of pasting up Osters Hebron depict-

ing the Prophet Mohammed as a released from jail yesterday to house arrest, a 0 11 11 0 spokesman said.

The Jerusalem District Court handed Susskin, 26, over to an aunt in return for a \$14,200 guarantee that Susskin

would remain at the aunt's house. The address wasn't revealed for the suspect's protection, court "If there were an order to hang me, they would do it immediately. But to free me is a little hard for them in the meantime. The fact is

that I am being released," Susskin told reporters after the decision. Russian-born Susskin received court permission on Wednesday to

undergo tests by defense psychia-

#### 'School year won't start without promised funds'

The school year will open only after the commitment to transfer "NIS 330 million to the education system is met, this along the arrangement set by the ministry, that is, additional funds for teaching hours which will be transferred directly to the ministry and will allow us to employ teachers, not students" for the long school day project, Education Ministry Director-General Benzion Dell said yesterday.

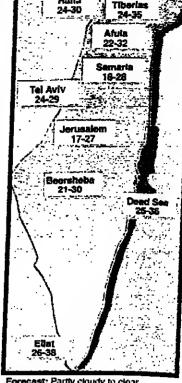
Speaking at a gathering of local authority education department heads in Netanya, he said the government has to keep its promises. The education system has been preparing for 10 months for this addition. To unilaterally announce today, just over a week before school is supposed to open, that the Finance Ministry agrees to transfer only NIS 130m. out of the NIS 330m. promised means torpedoing the smooth opening of the school year," he said. Aryeh Dean Cohen



next two weeks. lawyer Her Shmuel Casper said a previous examination had found that Susskin had a psychiatric \*\* pathological problems on the

day" she put up posters. which was June Last week the

court ruled Susskin was fit to stand trial after tests at a mental



Shabbat: No change in temperature

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The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in the U.S., together with leading Israeli hospitals, will be conducting a study to identify the biological causes of schizophrenia in Ashkenazim. Both environmental and genetic factors are believed to play a role in determining who is susceptible to the

Although Ashkenazim do not have a higher rate of these disorders, the fact that the community has evolved from a limited number of ancestors and that Ashkenazim often marry from the same ethnic background, provides unique opportunities for genetic analysis.

For more information, please leave a message 24 hours a day (excluding Shabbat) for our Israeli research coordinator (Hebrew or English) at 62-648-6253, or contact Dr. Ann E. Pulver (English speakers only) in the United States BY CALLING COLLECT via an operator to 418-955-0455, Mon. - Fri. between 8.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. E-mail: acpulver@welchlink.welch.jbu.edu; Fax 410-955-0644 All participant expenses paid. Confidentiality Assured

else iu Israel.

## Sallai Meridor to run for Jewish Agency chairman

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Rally with style

Sallai Meridor, head of the World Zionist Organization's Settlement Division and brother of Likud MK Dan Meridor, yesterday officially announced he would seek the Likud nomination to run for Jewish Agency and WZO chairman.

Meridor, 42, said he is not concerned about reports that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has already indicated a preference for Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal to incumbent Avraham

Burg.
The Likud is a democratic party, and we'll have democratic elections to select our candidate, he said. "But if there is another candidate or candidates, we will go through the democratic process, hopefully in a friendly manner, and hopefully make the right and better choice.

Meridor denied his candidacy has anything to do with tensions hetween his brother and Netanyahu, saying: "The issues ahead of us are too important to allow personal things to take

Asked if he would step aside if Netanyahu asks him not to run, Meridor said: "I intend to run. I hope the prime minister will support my candidacy, and I believe that if elected. I will get the futl cooperation of the prime minister and the government, because the cause is too important for any of us not to cooperate and work

Meridor, who is on both the Jewish Agency and WZO executives, said the agency is "a critical took for maintaining the unity of the Jewish people, and it has an important role in projecting that unity to all Jews."

Meridor, who is leaving for the US on Sunday, said he would discuss the work of the Neeman Committee, which is trying to find a compromise on the conversion issue, with Jewish leaders there.

"I think that the Neeman Committee is doing very impor-tant work," he said, "From reports I hear, there is chance, although this is not yet a certainty hut a good prohability, that we are going to reach an understand-

ing which will add unity and peace among Jews. And I would definitely urge all Jews from the different streams to cootinue the discussions and accept the proposal, which apparently was a compromise suggested

Asked about recent criticism of the agency for hringing large numbers of non-Jewish immigrants into the country, Meridor said: "I think that we should understand that the reality of Jewish life today is that there are unfortunately high rates of intermarriage, and seeking to have large waves of immigration implies that we will have to deal

with having their relatives in

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Israel, who may not be Jewish when they enter.

James Black (left) of Belfast, Northern Ireland, poses with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and his 1929 Rolls Royce in front of

City Hall yesterday. Black arrived in the capital yesterday in his antique car, after making a 3,000 km. trip from Belfast via France, Italy, and Cyprus, where he and the car boarded a ferry to Israel. Black's car is one of 50 antique cars that are to participate in a

London-to-Jerusalem rally next year, sponsored by the Jewish National Fund to mark the state's 50th anniversary.

"If we have to choose between leaving a Jew out of Israel with his oon-Jewish relative, or bringing him in, I would unequivocally choose to bring the Jew in, with his relative."

Meridor added that he supports "accelerating the process of integrating those non-Jewish relatives into the Jewish people, bearing in mind that hy the very fact of moviog to Israel, desiring to belong to the Jewish people, speaking Hehrew, sending their children to Jewish schools, and serving in the IDF, they are taking significant steps toward being accepted into the Jewish people

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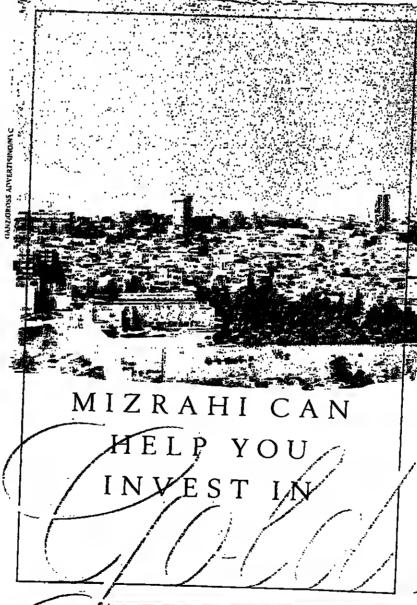
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